



RANMAD RANVERS



Vol.1 No.1

March 22, 1945

Now that we are to have a bulletin, I suppose the first thing to list is our current square dance exhibition medley. As we have two older routines we will call this routine 'C'.

Join your hands and circle left
1st couple right--4 hands around
Three ladies chain--on to the next
Circle 4**two ladies chain** on to next
Circle 4**three ladies chain
All go home and swing your own
Allemand left(hand)**grand right & left
Swing when you meet(once)
Promenade home(star)
2nd couple right circle 4 halfway
Dip and dive 6**on to the next
Circle 4 halfway**dive right thru to next
Circle 4 halfway**dip and dive 6
All go home and swing your own
Allemand left**grand R&L
Swing when you meet**star promenade
3rd couple lead right**circle 4
Lady stay, gent go on, circle 3
Take that lady to the next and circle 4
Leave that lady*** go home alone
3 times || Forward 6 and 6 fall back
The two gents dos-a-dos
Arch the left-hand lady under
All swing partners**allemand left
Grand R&L**meet-swing**star promenade
3 times || Last couple right**circle 4
I'll swing yours, you swing mine
4 hands round the grapevine
Swing your own
All swing partners**
Allemand left**grand R&L
Meet with elbow swing**grand allemand
Ladies to the center, back to back
Wagon wheel***ladies swing out,
Gents swing in and turn again
Gents swing out and give her a bow.

The Lanciers we have learned for exhibition work are the Oriental Lanciers. The figures as called on the Henry Ford records go as follows:-

Figure 1

Address partners ** address corners

Head couples forward and back

Forward again and turn the opposite

Head couple promenade between the opposite and return on the outside

All balance to corner ** (use London Lancier balance)

All turn partners.

Side couples perform figure which is repeated until each couple has had their turn to pass between.

Figure 2

Head couples forward and back

Turn ladies to center facing partners

Chassé right

Turn partners

Side couples separate to heads -- all forward and back

Turn partners to places

Repeat figure with the sides

Figure 3

Head couples forward and back

Forward again and address

Head couples ladies chain

Repeat figure with sides

All join hands -- forward and back

Forward again and address

Four ladies chain.

Figure 4

Head couples lead to the right and address

Lead to the couples on the left and address

Lead partners to places -- address the center

Head couples right and left

Repeat figure with the sides

Figure 5

Grand right and left

Head couple promenade inside and face out

Sides fall in

All chassé (and balance)

March (countermarch)

All forward and back

Forward and turn partners to places

Repeat with 1st side couple and 2nd head couple -- record is too short for 2nd side couple to get a turn.

All join hands -- forward and back

Forward again and address

Promenade to seats.

There are a number of other Lanciers that were quite popular back in the eighties, and I have been fortunate enough to obtain the old sheet music for a number of them. As soon as arrangements can be made I propose to make transcriptions of two or three. The first one that you will get will probably be Dodsworth's New York Lanciers. Also to be added to our permanent exhibition will be the Danish Hatters Dance ~~and~~ (a good look at this one from the sidelines will tell you why) and a medley of contra dances.

Happy hoppin'

God



RANMAAD RANGERS



Vol. 1 No. 2

March 29, 1945

Sorry Rangers, only one page this time --- next issue however will consist of several pages, as I intend to send out a few extra copies to where I think they will do us some good.

I guess all present enjoyed our affair at Haledon Fire Hall. The ones I spoke to said they had the time of their lives. Suprise was the number who came to look but not to dance. And wasn't Matty hot on that Lady Walpole's!

Don't forget this Tuesday April 3 at the Passaic Y.M.C.A. This wont be an exhibition in any sense --- you'll be going for fun and to encourage the Y to sponser some more folk dancing. Matty will be playing and I've taught that gang all that will be done that night so you won't get stuck to teach a lot of beginners.

I received a letter from the Sagebrush Troubadours thanking us for appearing in the Wright Revue with them. They say our performance elicited a great deal of favourable comment.

I intend to have Matty down on the 9th to work out with the new recording outfit. It does a real professional cutting job!

We have a new longways dance to try out. Invented just for the Rangers. If it works smooth with the group we'll name it The Rangers Reel. Real smart, huh?

Happy hoppin'

Paul



RAMAPO RANGERS



Published at irregular intervals for
members of the Ramapo Rangers, by
Rod LaFarge, 115 Cliff St., Haledon N.J.

Vol. I

April 9, 1945

No. 3

With the gal's new calico summer costumes coming right along the contra dances will soon present quite a sight to the spectators. Don't think I'm stringing you, but they call them "string dances" in parts of New England. Here are the figures for the ones you are supposed to know well :-

Lady Walpole's Reel

First, third and all odd couples active - actives cross over before dance starts. Balance and swing the one below, down the center and back, cast off, ladies chain, half promenade, half right and left.

Money Musk

First, fourth, and every third couple active. Right hand to your partner turn once and one-half around (falling in one place below) forward and back 6, right hand to your partner swing three quarters round, up and down 6, turn partner to place, right and left with the couple above.

Hull's Victory

First, third and all odd couples active. Right hand to your partner left to the opposite and balance four in line, elbow reel with opposite (twice around), right hand to partner left to opposite and balance four in line, swing partner in the center, down the center and back, cast off, right and left.

Beaux of Albany

First, third and all odd couples active. Everybody balance and swing, everybody down the center and back, actives cast off, right hand star, left hand back, right and left.

Thady You Gander

Head couple active. Head couple join both hands, slide down the set, swing half around and slide back, lady lead the men around, man lead the ladies around, head couple: left hand round your partner, right hand round the next, reeling thus to the foot of the set.

Rangers' Reel

First, third and all odd couples active. Balance and swing your partner, down the center and back, cast off, figure eight.

Virginia Reel

Head and foot couples active.

Head lady and foot gent forward and back

Head gent and foot lady the same

Head lady and foot gent right hand around

Head gent and foot lady the same

Head lady and foot gent left hand around

Head gent and foot lady the same

Head lady and foot gent both hands around

Head gent and foot lady the same

Head lady and foot gent dos-a-dos

Head gent and foot lady the same

Head couples slide down the set and back

Right elbows to partners, left to the next- reel down the set

Slide back up, cast off and lead the lines around

Head couple only form arch, all march through.

I've dug up music to use with some of the Bahamian dances that I picked up from that colored quadrille club up in Harlem and we'll try it out at our next practice. It's about time I went snooping in Harlem again --- I would like to add some more West Indian dances to my list, especially the Haitian Merengue. I missed the voodoo ceremonies this year.

Since I have had the new professional recording outfit, our list of special transcriptions has grown considerably. The latest include the Spanish Dance, Eide Ratas, Thady You Gander, Danza, Noriu Miego, Sudmalinas and a bunch of square and longways dances. A few new records the other day put my personal collection of commercial records past the 400 mark.

Got a letter from Ed Durlacher last week. He has made a series of 15 minute transcriptions for the use of the smaller radio stations. Be on the watch for them -- they will probably be good.

Miss Ilasz has changed the date of the ~~Y.W.C.A.~~ Y.W.C.A. Folk Festival to May 5th in order not to interfere with our Stage Door and IHC dates. Hope you all can make it. They have invited Greek, Russian, Lithuanian, and other groups including the Polish Gorale mountaineer group. The Gorale are a colorful group. Helen and I dropped in on a play they gave a month or so ago (darn good thing Helen speaks Polish) and the dancing in it was really wild and woolly ---- wilder than the Russians. Very odd music too, they use a different scale than ours.

Some of that old sheet music from the 60's and 70's that I picked up proved quite attractive when recorded. You'll hear it next Wednesday night.

Had a lot of fun calling at the Passaic YMCA last Tuesday night, Matty and the orchestra were ridin' high and we had 8 or 10 sets on the floor, plus spectators. Twelve members of the Rangers and a few of the IHC were there, and did they dance! The Schwartzes were there but left just in time to miss the one that wore the VanBlarcoms' shoe coupon out-- swingo ringo. The Guses and the Schwabs went to town on Chicken Reel, but poor Jack and Friede were robbed of their Bell Bottom Trousers. And did the Lawrences have the Old Apple Tree in the groove!

There were a lot of inquiries about bookings-- for the orchestra--- for the caller --- and for the Ramapo Rangers. The Y will probably have some more square and folk dances as soon as the weather permits the use of the roof.

Helen dropped in at Bill Cairnes' group the other Sat. nite. They were having a Palestine evening and she fell for the Sher. I'll have to make a recording of that; it's quite lively.

We're both going down to Bills' on the 14th and to Durlachers on the 12th. If any of the ⁶⁷⁸ cares to go along let us know.

I was talking to one of the girls from the St. George Folk Dance Group, and I think they may go out on a few exhibitions with us. Helen and I were to one of their dances a few weeks ago and they did a Syrto with some real snappy steps in it. They have quite exotic costumes too. Perhaps I can persuade one of them to teach me the Zeibekiko. That music fascinates me -- I think it was probably the inspiration for Tuxedo Junction--? Don't forget we go to the Stage Door Canteen on April 23. I'll let you know when we rehearse for that very shortly.

Doggone this Victory typewriter anyhow*****

Movie Items

I suppose you don't need to be reminded that Roy Rogers called a running set in his last picture 'The Lights Of Old Santa Fe', but did you see it? It should be around in the neighborhood theatres soon ---- Cowpoke Polka and all!

The current Republic picture "Utah" has no usable dance material an but little in the way of new costumes. (Roy has one new shirt).

"Dark Waters" is playing the small houses at the moment. The Cajun polka and square dance in these are quite typical.

"Gypsy Wildcat" also current in the side street shows, has some colorful costumes (Technicolor). The villians jacket nearly broke my heart.

Don't miss "The Three Caballeros" even if you happen to detest Donald Duck. Lots of hot Latin American music and dances, some authentic and some distorted. Also some striking costumes. The most startling of the lot is probably the Mexican cowgirl. This is not the usual China Poblano outfit, but an adaptation of the Mexican man's Charro costume. Not a bad idea where flash and not authenticity is wanted.

There is a Virginia Reel sequence in "Meet Me in St. Louis" and a showing of the costume of that period.

Some strikingly exotic costumes in the Technicolor "Sudan" Can't vouch for their authenticity -- nor thin of any use we could make of ancient Egyptian costumes. The hat of the Grand Vizier sure got a laugh from the audience.

Too bad Gay has to work so many nights and miss so much dancing. Helen and I intend to resume collecting old dances where I left off among the Jackson Whites in the Ramapos and the old settlers along the Morris Canal as soon as the weather gets nice enough to get them out on their porches -- they are difficult to approach, and chary about inviting strangers into their homes, although I know a great many of them.

Durlacher and the Top Hands played Caravan Hall last week, sponsored by the I.C.A., and the boys have that schottische really perkin' now. Quite a few people you know were there, including Bill Cairns and Ken Deemer who called a couple of squares. Ed's forthcoming book on square dancing is well worth waiting for. We'll let you know when the publishers release it. He also expects to record a new square dance album soon and you better get your copies of that as soon as it comes out as it will go in a hurry.

Sorry to hear that the Sagebrush Troubadours have discontinued their Saturday night squares at Legion Hall

A half-dozen of the Rangers dropped in at the Campgaw Garden Club dance Friday night. Cookie's Country Cobblers furnished the music (good), Les Mickens called the squares (not bad what there were of them). In spite of the curfew-curtailed time they held the most ~~***#11&~~ series of longwinded raffle drawings and cakewalks I've ever seen. Some consolation -- Erwin and Estelle won a nice basket of groceries. The caller didn't have an amplifier, so I loaned him one I had in the car to save stretching my ears out of shape. The VanSauns knew a lot of people there. The Winters were there, and ~~was contemplating~~ contemplate joining the Rangers. We spent the time during the raffles in reminiscence -- Hud Cooper and his banjo, the old quadrilles, ect. Mr. Winters, by the way, dotes on the Lanciers!

The Ballet Theatre evening performances at the Met. are now starting at 8.20 because of the curfew. Three more of Ragini Devi's dances of India remain: April 15, 22, 29. La Meri is now running some classes for men only. The African Academy of Arts and Research held their second Festival of African Dance and Music at Carnegie Hall on Wednesday and Friday of last week. Perhaps we can get up a party to attend next time. Some of the material is really good. Two dates remain on the American Museum of Natural History series of free dance demonstrations: April 19 and May 17, and two on the Brooklyn program: April 28 and May 26. The AMNH at 3PM., Brooklyn at 3.30 PM.

Crowds are thinning down a bit at Marshall's lately, either because of the curfew (although they have speeded things up so that you get almost as many squares now from 8.00 to ~~11.45~~ 11.45 as previously from 8.30 to 2.30 %) or because of the early warm weather. Only 8 or 10 sets on the floor Saturday -- plenty of room to swing! Quite a few new faces.

Did you hear Bradshaw call Aunt Mariah's Delight on the Ford Program Saturday night? Not bad at all, and we'll have to add that dip schottische to our repertoire as a breather.

And how about getting a set together to go up and dance with the Hudson shad fishermen who are having their run now. You'll have tales to tell! April 21 maybe ????

Happy hoppin',

Pod

Cont.) SPECIAL ONE TIME EVENTS

Friday April 13 Marshall and Matty with his orchestra. Hanover School, Hanover, N.J.

Saturday April 14 Italian Folk Dance sponsored by the Italian American Co-operative. 144 Bleeker St. NYC

♥ Monday April 23 The Ramapo Rangers with the Wright Rubes at the Stage Door Canteen. Admission to service people only.

Saturday April 28 Seventh anniversary dance of L'Alliance Haitienne at Renaissance Casino, 138th St. and 7th Ave. NYC.

* Tuesday May 1st Passaic YMCA square dance. Rod LaFarge calls. Matty and the orchestra plays for a bang-up evening of square, contra, and folk dancing. 9.30 PM Passaic YMCA, 45 River Drive Passaic N.J.

♥ Saturday May 12th Passaic Fourth Street YWCA Folk Festival. The Ramapo Rangers, the St. George Greek Girls, the Gorale ect., ect. Starts at 8.00 PM.



RAMAPO RANGERS



Published for members of the Ramapo Rangers
by Rod LaFarge 115 Cliff St. Haledon, N.J.

Vol.1

April 25 1945

No. 4

The Rangers tried out three new dances at the Guses for the Wednesday night practice:- Lamplighter's Hornpipe, Upon a Summer's Day, and the German Clap Dance. Nice punch Estelle makes*****.

Quite a crowd at Durlacher's Thursday night whirl in spite of the hot weather. Ed says they will be on the roof soon. Larry Cairns was there-- just back from a coast to coast jaunt. Sorry he didn't get back in time for the Rangers dance.

If you want to do some West Indian dancing --- Rhumbas, Mazukes, ect., try Caravan Hall on the 2nd Friday of each month. Kathryn Dunham's school holds 'em. If you like your rhumbas entirely uninhibited, let me know and I'll give you a Harlem address.

Dropped in at Bill Cairns' Sat. Nite group and called the Butterfly Split and my new Upidee Polka Quadrille. Nice group Bill runs -- they don't make the infernal racket some of the other groups do while things are being explained. The Sillers played in quite perky style. They will be at Silver Bay again this summer.

Bill is holding a folk dance picnic in Van Cortland Park on Sunday April 22. Guess we can make it.

A real good Sunday night bet (the 1st and 3rd Sundays only of each month) is the Philo-Gaellic affair at Lenox Hill House. A 5 piece peppy Irish band, spirited dancers, and refreshments --- all for 50¢ !!! Phillip Maron, Stacia Jordan and quite a few others of the N.Y. dance crew were there in addition to the Irish.

Sorry to hear that Henry Joseph has dropped his Sunday night group until Fall. He still has Tuesday nights at Irving Plaza. Received a letter from him yesterday --- he has a Stage Door and Merchant Seamen's date this month with his folk dance group. He may drop in on the Passaic Y affair. Looks as though half the people there will be Ramapo Rangers and N.Y. folk dancers.

I guess it's a little late to be news to most of you, but just for the record, two of our Rangers are getting hitched in June --- Dot Derks and Gay Adler. And also for the record they say they don't intend to let it interfere with their dancing. That's the spirit!

Anytime you start thinking that some square dance routine is tough it might help to remember the girls of the Marie Blodie School. They gave an exhibition recently (April 13) including Durlacher's Top Hands Medley (Dip and Dive Six, Left Hand Lady Under, Grapevine Twist, and the Basket) ----- They are all blind!

Sally Kamin (The Kamin Dance Bookshop) has some new square dance material in. If you've never been there you should take a peek sometime. If you can't find the dance book you want there you'll have quite a search elsewhere.

Tuesday May 17 Helen dropped in on the Polish WAF dance festival at Lenox Hill House. The exhibition group of 12 girls and 2 boys (they have 264 boys in the service!) was quite striking in the Krakow costume. This is one of the prettiest of the Polish costumes. The girls wear white blouses and beribboned white skirts, heavily beaded and embroidered velvet jackets with gay streaming ribbons attached to the shoulders, red boots, and garlands of flowers in their hair. The boys wore the costume most of you have seen --- the same as worn by the Polish group of Mr. Matusz.

The group led by Frances Wesolowska (and is she good) put on quite a lively program:- Kujawiak, Polkas, Polka-mazurkas, Oberek, Mazur, Krakowiak ect. There were several solo versions of these which is quite unusual, the solo polka of their leader being especially well received.

After refreshments, Miss Wesolowska with her group demonstrating, led the audience through some simple Polish folk steps.

We hope you will all get a chance to see them in action at our square and folk dance picnic this summer.

My latest square dance call seems to have really hit the bell. Here is the official version of it. Tune:- Upidee.

Rods' Polka Quadrille

The two head couples right hand star; upidee, upidah,
Back with the left to where you were; upidee-a-dah,
Salute your corner - salute your pal,
Polka with that corner gal!
Upidee-a-dee-a-dah, upidee, upidah.
Upidee-a-dee-a-dah, upidee-a-dah.

(Repeat 4 times)

The two head couples dos-a-dos; upidee, upidah,
Dos-a-dos your corners all; upidee, upidah,
Allemande your corners all; polka with your partners all!
Upidee-a-dee-a-dah, upidee, upidah.
Upidee-a-dee-a-dah, upidee-a-dah!

Repeat ~~XXXX~~ all of above with the side couples.

I wonder why the Central YWCA can't adopt a system of individual slips to fill out if they must have all their patron's names? People don't like to wait in those long lines while the squares go on without them. No relief in coming early either; they won't start the registration until the first square is about ready to start!

The Bronx Allied Nations Rally, where we were invited to exhibit; has cancelled the folk dance portion of the program because of the death of the president.

The Virgin Islands Civic Ass'n is holding a reunion at Renaissance Ballroom (Harlem) Sat. May 26th. There will be native dances including the Virgin Islands Marengo. Anyone wishing to attend please get in touch with me and I will make arrangements. Mr. Neilson has also informed me that two exhibition groups, one from the Bahamas and one from the Virgin Islands, will soon give performances in New York. I'll let you know the dates when I get them.

Two whole carloads of Rangers lost a perfectly good Saturday night snooping for new square dance resorts. We had been told that they square danced every Saturday night at Tompkins Cove, but on arrival there we found that their schedule was irregular ---- we could go to Garnertown if we wished or wait until next Saturday at the Camp Hill School. Back through Spring Valley: no luck, they only run them occasionally --- same in Suffern. Back in Haledon we found that they had given up the Sat. nite squares at the Firehall, so on to the Haledon Diner for a bite to eat --- and they were closed! We bowed to the jinx and repaired to my dance room to finish off the evening with a few squares to recorded music.

Bill Cairns' folk dance picnic at Van Cortlandt Park was quite a success. Sixty or seventy folk dancers spent the afternoon doing their favorites with a crowd of two or three hundred looking on. Mr. Siller played his violin, an accordionist accompanied, and later Bill tooted with his sax. Bill had quite a crowd at Irving Plaza Saturday night for his Estonian evening including Michael Herman and his wife.

We dropped in on the way home to see Pan-Americana. A fair amount of dancing in it, although they passed up most of 'Pan-America' except Mexico, Cuba and Brazil, and all the folk dancing proper except a brief glimpse at the Mexican wedding. The snake dance however is worth sitting through the rest of the picture to see. Even the blasé theatre audience was gasping -- and what a hand they gave it.

Monday night the Rangers put on a square dance exhibition at the N.Y. Stage Door Canteen with the Wright Rubes furnishing the music. Figures used were; three ladies chain, dip and dive, six and two, and four hands round the grapevine. Nice evening, a nice responsive crowd --- they gave us a real big hand and ran overtime pulling us out for an encore (we did the Butterfly Split), and the Wright Rubes were Wright in the groove! Transportation was furnished by the Red Cross and they sure whizzed us to N.Y. and back in jig time!

I have another batch of tentative dates including Fort Totten, the Staten Island Marine Hospital, the Stage Door Canteen, Camp Shanks, and a radio program. We'll discuss these at our next practice.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX ROD'S DANCE DIRECTORY XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

MONDAYS

International Center YWCA 341 E. 17th St., NYC. Every Monday night. Mostly folk dancing. Membership required.
Newark YWCA Washington St., Newark N.J. Every Monday night. Mostly folk dancing.

TUESDAYS

Al Mac Leod Group, Prospect School, Hempstead, L.I. Square and folk dancing. Every Tuesday night.
Irving Plaza Bldg. E15th St. and Irving Place, NYC. Henry Joseph teaches and the Sillers play. Beginners and advanced. Mostly folk dancing. Every Tuesday night.

WEDNESDAYS

Practice night for the Ramapo Rangers. (Sure we need it)

THURSDAYS

Ed Durlacher of course! Central YWCA, Lexington Ave. at 53rd St. NYC. All squares --- all good ones. Every Thursday night except the first Thursday of each month.
Country Dance Society, City Center, 130 W56th St. NYC. Morris dance classes 7.30 to 8.30 P.M. --- American and English country dancing 8.30 to 10.30 P.M. Soft soled shoes required.

FRIDAYS

West Side Square Dance Club. West Side YMCA, 5 W63rd St., NYC. Square, contra, and folk dancing with Don Chambers calling. Every Friday Night.
Michael Hermans' Community Folk Dance Center, 19 St. Marks Place (E 8th St.) NYC. All folk dancing, every Friday night.
Troy Hills. Square and modern. Harry James calls. Every Friday nite.
West Indian Evenings, Katherine Dunham School, Caravan Hall, 110 E 59th St. NYC. West Indian Orchestra; Rhumbas, Sambas, Mazukes, Begines, ect. Second Friday of each month.
Schweithguths' Grove, Broad St., Clifton N.J. Chuck Zintel calls. Square and modern, every Friday night.

SATURDAYS

Marshall's Hall, Oak St., Boonton N.J. You've never been square dancing if you haven't been here. Nice clear caller, robust dancers, with Mattie and his red hot square dance band. Square and modern. Every Saturday night all year round.
Preakness Grangers. Grange Hall, Paterson*Pompton Turnpike, Preakness N.J. Jitters and squares. Every Saturday night.
Wyckoff Grangers. Grange Hall, Wyckoff N.J. Cookie's Cobblers, square and modern, every Saturday night. Nice band, nice people.
Hilltop Barn, Broad St., Bloomfield N.J. Zintel calls, the dancers get quite worked up. Square and modern, every Saturday night.
City Folk Dance Society. Ella Sonkin, Studio 306 9 E59th St. NYC. Square and folk dancing every Saturday night.
Metropolitan Folk Dancers. Irving Plaza Bldg. E 15th St. and Irving Place NYC. Bill Cairns leads, the Sillers play, and You'll learn a lot in a hurry. Every Saturday nite, Mostly folk dances.

SUNDAYS

Irish folk dances. First and third Sundays of each month at Lenox Hill House, 331 E70th St. NYC. The real Mc Coy; Irish orchestra, Irish dances and all nice people. You'll like it.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX SPECIAL ONE TIME EVENTS XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Saturday April 28 --- Seventh anniversary dance of L'Alliance

Haitienne at Renaissance Casino, 138th St. and 7th Ave., Harlem.

* Tuesday May 1st --- Passaic YMCA square dance. Rod LaFarge calls, Mattie and the orchestra play for a bang-up evening of square, longway, and folk dancing. 9.30 P.M., Passaic YMCA, 45 River Drive, Passaic N.J.

* Saturday May 12 --- Passaic Fourth Street YWCA Folk Festival. Colorful evening of dance exhibitions with the Ramapo Rangers, the St George Greek Girls, the Polish Gorale, ect., ect....
Fourth St. YWCA, 4th and Bergen Sts., Passaic N.J.

Saturday May 26 --- Annual reunion of the Virgin Islanders. Rhumbas, Merengos, Calypsos ect. Renaissance Ballroom, 138th St. and 7th Ave. Harlem

IF YOU HAVE ANY ITEMS THAT MIGHT INTEREST THE GANG***SEND THEM IN
Rod LaFarge, 115 Cliff Street Haledon N.J.



RAMPO RANGERS



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by Rod La Farge 115 Cliff St., Haledon, N.J.

Vol. 1

May 1945

No. 5

Nice crowd out at the Passaic YM affair (May 1st). They have a new cardoid mike that makes calling a real treat. In spite of the curfew I managed to shovel in eight folk dances, eleven squares, and two contra dances! Matty and the gang must have raided some "black" market for some of the hot licks they got in some of the dances -- nice goin' boys! The next session here will be on May 28 (a Monday night), and if the weather permits it will probably be on the roof. See you there!

Good news ----- Ed Durlacher writes that for the summer at least, he and the Top Hands will be at the Central YWCA every Thursday nite including the first Thursday of each month which was previously skipped. The group of blind girls from the Marie Blodie School gave a square dance exhibition (The Top Hand's Medley) at the Lost Battalion Hall, Queens Boulevard, Forest Hills, where Ed is currently holding forth for the Park Department.

If you've never tried the Philo-Gaelic affairs at Lenox Hill House you've really missed something. They can swing and swing and swing*****. The Irish version of the Varsouvienne is a novel item and you can usually depend on a couple of Irish lassies giving an exhibition to prove the feet faster than the eye.

We met Bill and Winnie Cairns there last Sunday --- they may come up to one of our practice nights when we get going outdoors. The idea of dancing barefoot on the grass seems to intrigue Bill. Hope that he and Winnie can get up to the YM dance on the 28th --- they've never heard Matty!

Larry Bruehl blew in with the Gaels also; he hasn't been seen in local folk dance circles lately, having been down at Aberdeen. He found some Swedes to dance with down there and got in quite a bit of folk dancing -- all Scandinavian. They were suprised to find he knew the Hambo -- and how! And that reminds me; ask Jack Van Saun to tell you (in dialect) about his Swedish benchmate who wanted to bet that he knew a dance Jack had never heard of (the Hambo).

We missed a Gaelic affair held at the Nola Studios last Sunday; heard they had quite a lively evening with songs and dances.

The Sillers write that their Silver Bay season will start on June 25th this year. If you want a quiet vacation, Silver Bay isn't bad ** the gym can hold 16 square sets and the Sillers play five nights a week! Write to Silver Bay (Lake George) N.Y.

The Country Dance Society held their Spring Party at Hunter College on May 5. Sorry I was otherwise engaged that evening; they have nice parties in the English manner. (I wonder if I should have capitalized that "manner"?) And I am really resolving to attend their Morris Dance group when the new season begins.

La Meri is running a class in American Indian Dances now; I don't have any details, but the address is 110 East 59th St. NYC.

We had a couple of visitors at our Wed. nite (May 9) practice. They hail from Rutherford and are going all the way on square and folk dancing -- they try to put in at least 4 nights a week. They tell me that the Rutherford Music Shop received and disposed of 100 Woodhull Albums last month ---- but they can't find anyone in the town to square dance with! Do people buy these records just to listen to, or are they all hermits down there?

Gathering Peascods went very well - I think we should devote a bit of practice to it, and we can probably use it on our programs occasionally. For your record, here are the figures:

GATHERING PEASCODS

All join hands, slide 8 steps to the left, turn single
 All join hands, slide 8 steps to the right, turn single
 Men join hands, slide 12 counts to the left, fall back beside partner
 Girls the same.
 Men forward a double and clap
 Girls forward a double and clap as the men fall back a double
 Men forward a double and clap as the girls fall back a double
 Men turn single back to place
 Girls forward a double and clap
 Men forward a double and clap as the girls fall back a double
 Girls forward a double and clap as the men fall back a double
 Girls turn single back to place
 Partners side and turn single
 Partners side and turn single
 Girls join hands, slide 12 to the left, fall back beside partner
 Men the same
 Girls forward a double and clap
 Men forward a double and clap as the girls fall back a double
 Girls forward a double and clap as the men fall back a double
 Girls turn single back to place
 Men forward a double and clap
 Girls forward a double and clap as the men fall back a double
 Men forward a double and clap as the girls fall back a double
 Men turn single back to place.
 Partners arm with the right, fall back to place and turn single
 Partners arm with the left, fall back to place and turn single
 Men join hands, slide 12 to the left, fall back beside partner
 Girls the same
 Men forward a double and clap
 Girls forward a double and clap as the men fall back a double
 Men forward a double and clap as the girls fall back a double
 Men turn single back to place
 Girls forward a double and clap
 Men forward a double and clap as the girls fall back a double
 Girls forward a double and clap as the men fall back a double
 Girls turn single back to place.

Gathering Peascods has been recorded commercially ** Victor records #18010 and #20445 (best) both of which have Sellengers round on the reverse.

I'm glad everyone has become acclimated to those tricky castoffs in Beaux of Albany and the Irish Washerwoman!

The Folk Festival at the Fourth Street Y ran off nicely (did you see the write-up the Passaic paper gave us?). The set representing the Rangers put on the Lanciers (Oriental) and a square medley; the Ukrainian group executed Hoechonique, Kozachok, Honey Viter and a Hopak; the Greek girls in a Tsamiko and a Syrtos; and the Polish Tatra Mountaineers exhibited some wild and woolly wedding dances. Miss Stults taught a circle Schottische, then after leading dances. Miss Stults audience through some folk and square dances I set the Rangers men on the Greek and Ukrainian girls to see if they could swing 'em to death in a Swingo-Ringo. Was that a wild melée*****!!!!

Rangers in the Passaic show:- Frieda and Jack Van Saun, Estelle and Erwin Guse, Barbara and Frank Schwab, Dorothy Derks, Gay Adler, Helen and Rod LaFarge.

After the Festival, Helen and I celebrated the return of curfewless nights by paying Marshall's a visit. We got there just as they ~~started~~ started the next to the last set (Hobart intends to close at about 1 A.M. from now on) and Matty and the orchestra seem to thrive on long hours --- they had quite a head of steam up !!

I mustn't forget to mention while singing the praises of Matty's hot fiddle that Len seems to be about the best folk dance pianist I've met. I've shoved some darn queer music in front of him and he always seems to know by instinct the spirit needed to make it a dance instead of "just music".

The Polonia Opera Company gave a performance of the Polish opera "Halka" in Newark on Sunday afternoon (the 13th). The N.Y. Polish Folk Dance Circle filled the dancing roles and there were solos by Bronislaw Matusz (the leader of the group), Casimiera Brytczuk, and F. Jaros. The group danced a Polonez and Mazur in the costumes of the Polish aristocracy of the day, and later in the third act put on a lively Tatra Mountaineer number.

Wednesday the 16th the Rangers met at the Guses --- practiced like fury on Gathering Peascods in order to try it out at the IHC dance.

Durlacher had his usual crowd at the Central 'Y' Thursday night, and a guest caller from Cinnibar Ranch called the Grapevine Twist with a western accent. Ed says he may come up to the Passaic 'Y' on the 28th, to spend an evening dancing for a change. We'll see if he can take it as well as he can dish it out!

They had an accordionist at Michael Herman's Friday night group; I forgot to ask if this was to be a permanent arrangement. He wasn't too bad. They are giving a folk festival at the Bronx Botanical Garden Saturday the 19th -- can't make it -- have to call for the IHC dance. Next Friday night they'll have an open house costume party -- no teaching, all dancing.

Dropped in on the West Side Square Dance Club later in the evening --- they meet in one of the gyms now. About the usual number present; got in a couple of squares, a couple of contras and a few folk dances.

The May 19th IHC dance was transferred to E.P. Jr. Order Hall by a rental mixup. A bit smaller hall but we had a rather strenuous evening chicken Reels, Flap Like Thunders (you should see the black and blue decorations on Helen!) ect., ect.. They even did the Fireman's Dance and liked it --- I'll have to be sure to call that again next time.

We skipped the May 21st Stage Door Canteen Night; the Red Cross Station Wagons were all busy on the bond drive and the gang is a bit short on gas coupons at the instant.

Here is a tentative list for the next series of recordings; let me know if I've left out anyone's pet:- Weggis, Black Forest Mazurka, Die Schöne Wulka, Polka zu Drien, Windmuller, Caledonians (3 sides), Christchurch Bells, Upidee, Devil's Dream, Smash the Window, Nellie Bly, Opera Reel and the Five Mile Chase.

I see New York folk dancing received two publicity splashes almost on the same day:- a full page photo spread for David Hahns' group at Irving Plaza in the World Telegram, while Damon Runyon devoted one of his daily columns to Michael Herman's group. Pictures in the Telegram included one of the Sillers but nothing exciting in the way of dances. They would label a single file promenade as a grand right and left, credit the leadership to David Roth, misspell Kujawiak as Kuyaviak but the press always seems a bit hazy about folk dancing, at least in New York!

ROD'S DANCE DIRECTORY

Rather curtailed this month, as I have put down only the places that I think will continue through the summer; the ones I know will stick the summer out I have underlined in red. I expect to have a list of summer dance spots in the next issue.

MONDAYS

International Center YWCA 341 E. 17th St. NYC. Every Monday night. Mostly folk dancing. Membership required.

TUESDAYS

Henry Joseph, Irving Plaza Bldg. E. 15th St. and Irving Place NYC. Mostly folk dancing. Every Tuesday night. Music by Sillers.

WEDNESDAYS

Ramapo Rangers practice night. Outdoors soon.

THURSDAYS

Ed Durlacher at the Central YWCA, Lexington Ave. and E. 53rd St.
Every Thursday night. All squares and good. On the roof soon.

FRIDAYS

Chuck Zintel at Schweithguth's Grove Broad St., Clifton N.J.
Square and modern every Friday night.
Michael Herman; Arlington Hall 19 St. Marks Place NYC
All folk dancing. Every Friday night.

SATURDAYS

Hobart Marshall, Marshall's Hall, Oak St. Boonton N.J.
Square and modern. Every Sat. nite. Matty and the boys. ~~Max~~
Bill Cairns at Irving Plaza Bldg. Irving Place and E. 15th St.
Every Sat. nite. Mostly folk dances. Good place to drop in.

SPECIAL ONE NIGHT ONLY

Monday May 28th Passaic YMCA, River Drive, Passaic N.J.
Rod LaFarge calling. Matty and the boys playing for an evening of square and folk dancing. From Paterson take either #16 or #74 bus to Passaic. From New York take Manhattan Line Passaic bus from terminal on 41st St. just off Broadway.

This will be the last of the Y series with Matty and the boys for the summer. The Y is planning a couple of square and folk dance parties on the roof (recorded music, they can't get a piano up there and it isn't large enough to pay an orchestra) to fill in the June to September gap. For September a new series is under discussion --- perhaps a once a week affair with Matty and the orchestra, and maybe lessons early in the evening before the dancing starts.

RAMAPO RANGERS PICNIC COMING UP

Probably in July or August. Matty and the orchestra. A number of folk and square dance groups have promised to be there.



RAMAPO RANGERS



Published for members of the Ramapo Rangers
by Rod La Farge 115 Cliff St., Haledon, N.J.

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We finally managed to get up to Troy Hills (Morris Grange #105) before they closed for the summer. It isn't a half bad place to drop in on a Friday evening (in season). Harry James calls, the local bobby-sockers think square dancing is just out of this world and the orchestra maintains a good even rhythm, although very fast and quite jitterbuggish. Bud and Paul were there; that's their regular stamping grounds. The sax player and the drummer were with Marshall's orchestra at one time. We were a bit nonplussed to have the crowd clear the floor for Helen and I to give an exhibition:- not of square or folk dancing; but jitterbugging! They applauded vociferously.

They still do a few figures of the Breakneck Lancers up there, and I may as well tell you all about them. It seems that back at the turn of the century manners were changing; people on the whole were becoming less formally polite (don't ask me why; the psychologists and the socialogists are still fighting over that one) and this trend was reflected in the dancing.

The original Lanciers having given birth to a long series of off-shoots and variations over the years, finally broke down and suffered such a drastic metamorphosis that only through courtesy could the result be called a relative of the former polite and meticulous dance. The figures were condensed and distorted; more innovations added; the popular music of the day adapted, and the whole set to such a furious romping pace that they became known as the "Breakneck Lancers".

As near as I can determine, searching through the news of the times, they were literally just about that. One finds in the papers such tidbits as: "Jennie Wilson broke her arm while dancing the Lancers at Popenoes' barn party last Saturday. She is mending nicely." Doesn't sound much like "Honor your partner with a deep bow", does it?

I have been trying to uncover as much material concerning these dances as may be available --- with mayhem on my mind, and present-day survivals are always interesting although usually comparatively effete. Here are the two figures Harry James called at Troy Hills:-

HARRY JAMES LANCERS Fig. 1

Introduction: { All join hands and circle left (all the way)
 { Swing your partner (hard and long)

Heads forward and back

Pass right through and pass right back (right & left thru and back)

Promenade, promenade four (usually done: chasse across holding your partner in social dance position and keeping to the right; without swinging around chasse backwards to place keeping to the left.)

Ladies chain; chain right back (Ladies chain done in this section with the men standing still; the oncoming ladies give their right hands to each other, pass by; give left hands to the

gentlemen who then pass the ladies around behind them, the joined left hands passing over the man's head. Returning the same way: ladies pass with right hands, around behind partners with left hands.)

Allemande left (a furious left elbow reel with the corner)

Grand right and left (Turning the ladies under; meet partner and promenade home.)

Repeat figures with the sides.

HARRY JAMES LANCERS Fig. 2

Introduction { All join hands and circle left (all the way)
{ Swing your partners (hard and long)

First couple promenade (outside the set--back to place)

Face out (gent behind lady, both hands on her shoulders)

Sides fall in (everyone places both hands on the shoulders of the person in front, including any sets ahead; thus all sets are joined into single files of alternate men and women up and down the room).

All sashay right (The lines slide violently across the room to the right; if you end up with a crash among the chairs and spectators thats all quite jolly!)

All sashay left (repeat the slide for life to the other side of the room)

Sashay to place (Slide back to the starting point)

Counter-march; ladies right, gents left (The files march forward; on reaching the end of the room the men turn to the left and the ladies to the right and march in the opposite direction beside the upmoving lines until the end of the file is passed; they then turn to partners and taking hands march up the room two abreast, stopping in place.)

All face partners and fall back (each former file has now been resolved into two facing lines of opposite sex)

All forward and back (with lines holding hands)

Right hand over, left hand back (holding right hands with partners change places, the lady turning under the mans right arm; take left hands and change back the lady turning under the man's left arm.

Arches over, down you go (All join both hands with partners forming arches; the first couple leads under, the others all following in turn, on reaching the end the arch is raised again while the first couple leads to the top of the room while maintaining the arch over the descending couples.

All forward and back (As before).

All forward; take a swing (swing partners to original square dance positions).

The dance is now repeated with the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th couples in turn. The second and fourth couples produce lines across the room; the first and third couples lines up and down the room.

People often look at me askance when I mention attending a negro dance or party. New York's Virgin Islanders would be a fine object lesson to many. There were over 2000 people at Renaissance Ballroom in Harlem on Saturday night (May 26) and I doubt if there was a better behaved or more courteous group in town. I guess Helen and I were the only whites there. They had a real party - 15 piece orchestra, dancing until 5 A.M., rhumbas - maringoes - fandangoes - boroquiens - back country dances - and some hot and bothered jitter-bugging.

The Virgin Islands were owned by Denmark prior to their purchase in 1917 by the United States, and this influence is evident in the customs and dances of the islanders. but not so noticeable in their

speech as the Danes never attempted to impress their language on the natives. Many of the islanders speak a sort of Elizabethian English, reminding one of our Southern Mountaineers:- with bits of French, Dutch, Spanish and Danish thrown at strategic points! The educated islanders speak good English with either a Dixie or a British accent, depending apparently upon where they went for the final educating process.

The dances show both the long Danish ownership and borrowings from the neighboring islands. Many of the VIs can toss off a Bitte Mand i Knibe or a Den Toppede Hone with as much nonchalance as a rhumba or meringe --- and they still do the old quadrilles, Lanciers, Reels and contra dances. The V.I. version of the waltz is about midway between the fast Viennese waltz and modern N.Y. style, using a very close position with your partner. The standard variety of jitterbugging is favored:- but much less inhibited than usually seen in white circles.

And that reminds me; Jack VanSaun has been getting alive to the jive lately:- he beats feet with all the slick chicks at the hay plays and cow capers.

Looks as though I'm at least a half brother to old Jupe Pluvius as far as the Passaic YMCA is concerned; we've had rair nearly every night I've called there since February. Allowing for the cloudburst however, there was a nice crowd out Monday night. Visitors included Mr. and Mrs. Ed Durlacher and Larry Cairns; I didn't really get a chance to kill off Ed -- he had to leave just as the party was going good -- it's quite a ride from Passaic to Freeport L.I. and the trains are few.. Matty and the orchestra had a good time with some new square dance music; the Rangers gave a short exhibition (the Van Sauns, the Laurences, the Guses, Helen and I) and the crowd apparently is falling heavily for the contra dances --- I received several worried inquiries before we finally did Thady You Gander and Lady Walpole's Reel!

The next Y party will be Tuesday June 26 --- on the roof, if the weather permits.

The Polish Folk Art and Dance Group held an open house evening, Tuesday May 29 at the Rand School. Mary Herman opened the affair by leading through Shoo Fly, Rye Waltz and Road to the Isles. An accordionist with Stacia Jordan at the piano provided music for most of the popular folk dances and there were plenty of obereks and polkas to recorded music. The Finnish group was there and led Lott ist Todt. The Ukrainian group exhibited Krechaniki, Honi Veeter and a two-couple Kolomeyka. The Polish group showed Kaczok (a Polish square dance!), Krakowiak and a Mazur, after which they led the audience through Gasior. Mary Herman called the Old Apple Tree and started a Virginia Reel --- the record ends here; Helen had to leave to catch her train!

We'll tell you more about this and other Polish groups in the near future; we intend to put out a special Polish issue with write-ups on several Polish groups, including the Tatra Mountaineers with pICTeres, sketches, costume notes and bits of history and folk lore.

Ed Durlacher is calling with his Top Hands every Monday night for the N.Y. Park Dept. (Free!) Details in the Dance Directory. We'll have to get a set together and pay him a visit one of these nights. His Thursday nights at the Central YWCA are going well on the roof now -- if you want to get in, go early; the roof has a capacity limit and they enforce it. There is usually a guest caller for one call of the evening. So far Chuck Zintel, De Jong, Schade have been on; I'll call one July 5.

A group of the Rangers (Jack and Frieda Van Saun, Erwin and Estelle Guse, Ed and Catherine Laurence, Gay Adler, Dot Derks,

Helen and I) dropped in on one of the Saturday night dances that the Moose have been running in their Ellison St. hall in Paterson. Not bad, although the floor is rather small. John De Jong calls, as does the drummer in the orchestra. They asked us for an exhibition so we gave them the Klappdians and Lady Walpole's Reel. I called a set for them, and before we left we managed to confound the local jitterbugs by teaching the crowd to do a Hasapiko to the tune of the Cow-Cow Boogie!@#?? I guess the hep-cats still think it's a variation of the Conga!

Marshall's had a good gate (Sat. June 7) especially when our present weather (?) is taken into consideration. Hobart has just managed add two more calls to the repertoire of the Boontonites despite their wails of anguish every time something different is thrust at them. Matty, Len and the rest of the orchestra pulled out all the sentimental stops for the evenings waltz crop -- they had the bobby-sockers out sighing in the moonlight all evening!

The Polish Art and Folk Dance Society will practice the last two Tuesdays of June, and then only the last Tuesday of each month for July and August. In September they will start with every Tuesday night again. Helen and I practiced with them last Tuesday (June 12) and had a nice evening. They did Kaczok, Zajac, Kokotek, Mazur, Kujawiak, Gasior, a couple of polkas, the Sicilian Tarentella, and to finish off the evening I called (by request) "Golden Slippers" Stasia Jordan at the piano furnished the music for the evening.

Friday June 15 was caller's night at Budd's Pavillion, Budd Lake. Al Green and His Country Club Orchestra furnished the music --- they followed the various callers very well. Al Shaner is the regular caller there and the guest callers were Johnny Villian (Plainfield), Clyde Suydam (Alpha), U.S. Trigger (Bernardsville), Walter Cook (Avenel-Seawarren), Steve Chabin (Bound Brook), Warren Austin (Long Valley), Herbert Hann (Far Hills), Fred Stout (Somerville), and Rod La Farge (Haledon).

With half of the Rangers away on vacation, getting married, slaving in gardens etc., we managed to get the Van Sauns away from their gardens long enough to go up to Egbert Lake (Marcella) with us. We went early to enjoy the ride and wandered the lake inspecting the fishermen's catches (calico bass, bullheads and perch) and botanizing. It wouldn't be a bad place to camp for a weekend --- nice hiking over the Green Pond and Copperas Mountains, plenty of berry picking, scenery, good fishing (still), swimming, and of course the Saturday night square dance! Fred James calls there with Pura Hardie and His Electrons. I was talking to the orchestra and they said Troy Hills was going to try to continue their Friday nights throughout the summer -- attendance permitting. I didn't see any beginners at Marcella, but the manpower shortage is very bad, and is aggravated by the boys being too worn out by the squares to jitterbug in between! As soon as a square set was over all the boys ran off the floor, either to hide, or perhaps to neck in the moonlight, and at one time I counted thirty-nine girls and one man on the floor for a jitterbug number!

A group of the Rangers went over to Allendale to demonstrate square and contra dancing to the Youth Conference. (Square dancing is a fine thing for our youth -- a good evening of squares leaves no energy left over for delinquency!) The girls loved it but the boys were at the giggly self-conscious stage where one doesn't look at a girl (in public). Once up dancing though, they did reasonably well. Allendale is considering an every Friday night square dance with an orchestra and yours truly calling. Rangers at this affair were Frank and Barbara Schwab, Ed and Catherine Laurence, Erwin and Estelle Guse, Jack and Frieda Van Saun, Rod and Helen LaFarge.

Our two latest Ranger love birds, Gay Adler and Dot Derks, are taking the leap June 30 (Sat.). We tried to persuade Dot to get married in a nice white cowgirl costume, but we must be losing our salesmanship. However they are holding a reception with square, folk and contra dancing, and all the Rangers are invited!

Saturday June 17 was the last Ceilidhe to be held in Lenox Hill House by the Philo-Gaelic Society for the summer. Besides Helen and I, only two or three of the regular folk dance crowd braved the heat, but the Irish were there in force and danced through the usual assortment of jigs, reels, varsouvainnes, etc. The Rice H.S. Glee Club entertained with a few vocal numbers and were later seen in the halls trying to puzzle out some of the Irish dance steps -- a la crocodile. The Gaels next affair will be Sunday July 1st at 1 P.M. out at Cunningham Park.

I have finally sorted out enough old quadrilles and contra dances to make up a book. It will be published before the end of the year. A number of the dances have never been published before, ~~in~~ I'll show you some of them at our next few practice nights.

*****ROB'S DANCE DIRECTORY*****

MONDAYS

- Ed Durlacher and His Top Hands. In Central Park, Riverside Drive at 105th St. NYC. Every Monday night --- Free admission.

TUESDAYS

- Henry Joseph. Irving Plaza Bldg. E. 15th St. and Irving Place NYC. Mostly folk dancing. Every Tuesday night -- all summer.

WEDNESDAYS

- Rangers practice night.

THURSDAYS

- Ed Durlacher and His Top Hands. Central YWCA, Lexington Ave. at 53rd St. Every Thursday night on the roof**come early. Whoopee!

FRIDAYS

- Budd's Pavillion, Budd Lake N.J. Al Shaner Calls, music by Al Green and His Country Club Orchestra. Square and modern. Every Friday night.
- Morris Grange #105, Troy Hills N.J.. Fred James calls with Pats Hardy and His Electrons. Square and modern. They intend to try remaining open every Friday night all summer. (Depending on gate)
- Schweisguths Grove, Broad St. Clifton N.J. Chuck Zintel calls. Square and modern. Every Friday night.
- Michael Herman's Community Folk Dance Center. 19 St. Marks Place NYC. All folk dancing. Every Friday night.

SATURDAYS

- Marshall's Hall, Oak St., Boonton N.J. Hobart Marshall calls, Matty, Len and the rest of the gang play (and How) every Saturday night. Square and modern.
- Egbert Lake, Marcella N.J. Fred James calls with Pats Hardy and His Electrons. Square and modern. Every Saturday night.
- Bill Cairns. Metropolitan Folk Dance Group. Irving Plaza Bldg. E. 15th St. and Irving Place NYC. Mostly folk dancing. Every Saturday night. Quite instructive.

ONE TIME EVENTS

- Tuesday June 26. Square and folk dance party. Passaic N.J. YMCA On the roof --- weather permitting. Led by Rod La Farge.
- Coming --- The Ramapo Rangers Square and Folk Dancers Picnic. Place and date not yet settled.

DUDE RANCHES AND SUMMER RESORTS WITH SQUARE DANCE EVENINGS

Cinnabar Ranch. Peekskill N.Y.

Square dancing at the ranch every Tuesday and Saturday evening. Bill Stanfield calls with local orchestra.

Cimmarron Ranch. Peekskill N.Y.

Square dancing at the ranch every Saturday night.

Circle "E" Ranch. Peekskill N.Y.

Square dancing at the Ranch every Saturday night. Slim Pauline calls with Marty Ingersol's Orchestra.

Fredericks North View Farm. E. Stroudsburg Pa. (Restricted)

Square dancing at the farm every Tuesday and Saturday nights.

Hidden Valley Ranch. Lake Luzerne N.Y.

Square dancing at the ranch every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday nights. Water Van Allen does the calling with Lennie Nelson and his orchestra.

Maplehurst Ranch Croton Falls N.Y.

Square dancing every Saturday night. Professional caller and orchestra.

Silver Bay (YMCA resort) Lake George N.Y.

Square and folk dancing 5 nights per week. The Sillers are playing here all summer.

Stanbrooke Ranch. Rhinebeck N.Y.

Square dancing at Wing's Hall in Clinton Corners (5 miles away) every Saturday night. Farmer caller and local orchestra.

Sun Canyon Ranch. Warrensburg N.Y.

Square dancing at the ranch every Wednesday and Saturday Night. Their own caller and orchestra.

White Horse Dude Ranch. Weavertown N.Y.

Square dancing at the ranch every Monday night. Jimmy Casey calls with his own orchestra.

Also at nearby Glendale Park, Art Ingraham calls with his own orchestra every Saturday night.

The Ramapo Rangers will make no Stage Door Canteen appearances during June --- seems that everyone is taking their vacation early this year; not enough people left at home to get a set together from!

Any Rangers not otherwise occupied are welcome to drop in June 25 we are making some new recordings that night.

How about getting a set together and going down to dance with Ed on the roof some Thursday night in July? And it's been quite a while since we had a complete set at Marshall's.

If I've left any of your pets out of the dance directory for heaven's sake let me know -- I can't quite cover the whole area by myself.



RAMAPO RANGERS



Published for members of the Ramapo Rangers
by Rod La Farge 115 Cliff St., Haledon N.J.

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The weather jinx relented a bit for the Passaic YMCA dance (June 26), at least it didn't rain in the evening as usual, but it managed to deposit enough water in the afternoon to leave puddles on the roof, so we held the affair in the gym. It was a very nice gathering for a hot summer evening. The Kamenas were there and I called Swing Like Thunder for their benefit; I think every set in the hall had their girls off their feet for most of the call!

Florence Blume dropped in; her group at the Newark YMCA has closed for the summer. When they open again in the fall, the Sillers will play for them every Monday night. Paul Shea attended -- he intends to spend the summer in Boston. Marie and Virginnia from the hiking club (IHC) also had an evening of it (and no male shortage)!

The next Passaic YMCA dance will be held Tuesday July 24 --- on the roof --? (I hope)

The Rangers ganged up and presented me with a swell fringed buckskin jacket. Thanks a lot neighbors -- and Mrs. Swislocka, who was also in the surprise. It will sure keep the draughts off my bones when we're out dancing these coming cool nights. I'm glad you like my teaching that much.

The outing club of the Paterson YMCA held a square dance Thursday evening (June 28), and since Ed and Catherine Laurence are members of that group we got a set of Rangers together to go down and pay them a visit. The affair was scheduled for the roof, but it started to sprinkle at the last moment and they frantically moved into the gym (very hot). A large percentage of beginners, mostly girls, showed up; the majority of them struggled through fairly well. The caller (Josh Hallenbach) wasn't so hot; no spirit and bad timing on the calls, and an apparently poor memory more than outweighed the advantage of a quite fair calling voice.

Gracie Viviano was there, and did she get the daylights swung out of her! (Erwin, the villian). On one set the Ranger's girls sat out while the men took on some of the surplus female contingent. On this I drew a gal that could swing quite well but balked at "swing like thunder" and "pick 'em up". Once, in Boonton, I danced with a girl who acted just like that: her sister later told me on the side ----- no panties!!

Saturday June 23 at Bill Cairns' was the Siller's last night in New York for the Summer. They will play at Silver Bay until Sept. Bill intends to stay open all summer except the last three Saturdays in July; he will be on vacation at Silver Bay then. Miss Brown will furnish the music for the summer period.

I forgot to count noses at Bill's, but I guess about thirty or forty defied the heat and humidity to perspire through the assorted

folk dances, a contra dance and a couple of squares. (I called Swingo Ringo and Roll the Barrel for them). I promised Bill and Winnie that I'd bring down some of my folk dance transcriptions and a great big amplifier some Saturday night in August. Perhaps we can get the gang together that night and all go down?

David Hahn has discontinued his Wednesday night group at Irving Plaza for the summer, but Henry Joseph plans to remain open there all summer on Tuesday nights. Miss Brown will be at the piano. Henry also teaches all summer at Arrowhead Lodge in Ellenville N.Y. on weekends. Square and folk dancing on into September.

Two of our members, Dorothy Derks and Gerhardt Adler, took the big leap June 30 and the Rangers were all invited to the reception. We had a jolly evening in spite of the heat, doing assorted folk dances, square dances and jitterbuggings. A great many of the guests had spent their earlier years in Germany, so Ländlers and Rheinlanders were quite popular with them. (You should have heard one of the men yip and stamp on the Tyrolean numbers) It was very strange though, to have a German-speaking crowd asking about Obereks and Krakowiaks. I hadn't brought any Polish recordings with me, but it seems that some of these people came from near the old Polish-German border, where evidently dances disregard political boundary lines, skipping gaily over such imaginary barriers!

Some of the older people, reminiscing of the days of their youth, recalled dances which were apparently the transitions between the old French Court Quadrilles and the later German Bunte Tänze. I'll have to do a bit of snooping on this --- it sounds very interesting. Most of my previous German friends were from Southern or Central Germany, and they knew no such dances.

And before I forget to write it up, here is a schottische step that I picked up in Yorkville; I haven't seen it done at any of the all-nations folk dance groups.

Turnhalle Schottische (Man's part; girl performs the counterpart starting with the opposite foot.) Open position, partners holding inside hands. Step diagonally forward with the left foot, step the right foot in front of the left, step diagonally forward with the left again; hop on the left, swinging the right leg across in front at the same time. Repeat to the right starting with the right foot, then take closed position and perform the usual schottische series of four step-hops. Open position, partners holding inside hands. Step diagonally forward with the left foot, bring right up in back of left, step diagonally forward on left again; hop on left swinging right in front at the same time. Repeat to the right starting with the right foot and again perform the four hop-steps. Repeat all ad lib.

Having a Tuesday night free with no dance classes and no calling dates, I decided to relax by visiting two Tuesday night folk groups:-- Henry Joseph's and Michael Herman's. They were warming up at Henry's by pushing the piano around --- the only cool looking person in the place was Miss Brown, and she hadn't started to play yet! Henry took a bride to himself a couple of weeks ago; did well by himself too, she is very attractive.

The heat didn't deter the group at all, they danced right along, and after calling a couple of squares for them I left to see what the Hermans were up to these Tuesday nights. I met Paul Shea coming out as I arrived and a number of the regulars were in attendance, including Kitty Toomey. Mary Herman tells me that they started the Tuesday class to teach the more popular dances to the newer crowd and thus take some of the pressure off the Friday night group. They were using both their newfound accordionist and recordings. Michael's C.O. is so impressed with the merits of folk dancing after the recreation work Michael has been doing with convalescent soldiers that he has

issued a sort of permanent Friday furlough to him so that he can lead his Community Folk Dance Center in person. Mary tells me also that she thinks Helen and I look very lovey-dovey in the O.W.I. film they took for the army. She expects to have a 16 mm copy of it as soon as they can get the priority on the necessary film stock.

Kenneth Balje writes to tell us about square dancing up in the Adirondacks around Gloversville, the beauties of nature and the joys of life in the wildwoods. We'll have to invite him out with the IHC Hiking Club. Other mail included some folk dance literature from Miss Woods in New Zealand. Their branch of the English Folk Dance and Song Society publishes an eight page magazine listing the activities of various New Zealand folk dance centers, new records issued, and short articles on folk lore and dancing. An attractive little paper.

Morphea Tevas led a group of girls in Greek dances at a program presented by the Greek War Relief Association at the North Jersey Training School for Girls in appreciation of the work done by the school for the recent clothing drive. Jean Pondikas, the Greek radio star, played the accordion on the program.

Elizabeth Burchenal is teaching folk dancing at the annual Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. (Lee, Massachusetts)

La Meri and her Natya Dancers are still giving both Tuesday and Wednesday night performances at the Ethnological Center Theatre 110 East 59th Street NYC.

Helen and I went to Egbert Lake on the Fourth with the Guses to spend the day and incidently arrange details of the Rangers overnight dance-camp-hike affair. Details in the dance directory section.

Thursday (July 5) I was guest caller for Ed Durlacher. The rainy weather killed the roof so we danced in the ballroom. Smaller crowd than usual --- I understand this is because of the new rule requiring all comers to become members of the YWCA. However this is more of a technical membership and costs only one dollar. Amusing incident on the way home --- Helen and I (in cowboy costume) were singled out of a subway crowd by a sailor and his girl as the logical people to give him Manhattan street directions. He must have been from Brooklyn; I understand some of the natives there think the great open spaces start at the West end of the Brooklyn Bridge and New Jersey is just one of the Texas ranches --- 'all them thar Jersey cow critters???'

We scraped together three couples not on vacation (the Van Sauns and the Guses) and went to Budd Lake on the 6th. Nice and cool there in the hall at the lakeside. I called a set for them -- Marching Through Georgia, the new Lucy Long number, and Swingo Ringo with a swing bonus on the end. The crowd did the figures well, the orchestra (Al Green's) followed beautifully and the applause would have warmed any callers heart. With only three couples the Rangers couldn't do an exhibition square so we put on a medley of polka steps which was very nicely received.

Al Shaner has his own version of Bell Bottom Trousers. His figures run like this:- Introduction; swing corner - swing partner. First couple separate go around the outside of the set, pass between opposite couple, swing in the center (long swing), everybody dos-a-dos corner, dos-a-dos partner, left elbow swing with corner, right hand to partner and grand right and left around. Repeat with 2nd, 3rd, 4th couples. Shaner, by the way recalls some of the old dances; the Plain Quadrilles, the Glide Lancers, the Loomis Lancers etc. Nice large hall they have there, and a good floor; we would bring the gang up oftener if it wasn't for the doggone gas rationing.

Vasar Farm is also at Budd Lake, and they have Scandinavian dances there. We'll tell you more about that next time.

Small summertime crowd at Marshall's Saturday night, only 6 or 7 sets on the floor --- plenty of room to swing all over the place. Part of the evening I spent experimenting with the recorder, making a few

transcriptions of Hobart's calls. Matty, Len and the boys hitting it up right under my nose proved to be too much however. By the third set I could no longer control my itching feet; I shut off the recorder and spent the rest of the evening dancing!

If any of you have any calling or teaching dates in mind for me, and especially if they require an orchestra, please let me know as soon as possible; I have already signed up some single nights as far ahead as November and will have at least three nights a week tied up steady when the Fall season gets under way.

***** ROD'S DANCE DIRECTORY *****

MONDAYS

Ed Durlacher and his Top Hands. In Central Park, Riverside Drive at 105th St. NYC. Every Monday night, all squares, free admission.

TUESDAYS

- Henry Joseph. Irving Plaza Bldg. E. 15th St. and Irving Place NYC. Mostly folk dancing. Every Tuesday Night, all year round.
- Michael Herman. Folk Dancing. 19 St. Marks Place NYC. Polish Nat. Home. Every Tuesday night. All year round.

WEDNESDAYS

- Ramapo Rangers Practice Night. Outdoors now!

THURSDAYS

- Ed Durlacher and His Top Hands. Central YWCA, Lexington Ave. at 53rd St. NYC. Every Thursday night on the roof ** come early.

FRIDAYS

- Budd's Pavillion, Budd Lake N.J. Al Shaner calls, Music by Al Green and His Country Club Orchestra. Square and modern. Every Friday night. All year round.
- Michael Herman's Community Folk Dance Center. 19 St. Marks Place (Polish National Home) NYC. Every Friday Night. All folk dancing.

SATURDAYS

- Marshall's Hall, Oak St., Boonton N.J. Hobart Marshall calls, Matty, Len and the boys play (!!!) every Saturday night all year round. Square and Modern.
- Egbert Lake, Marcella N.J. Fred James calls with Pura Hardy and His Electrons. Square and modern. Every Saturday night all year.
- Bill Cairns. Metropolitan Folk Dance Group. Irving Plaza Bldg., E. 15th St. and Irving Place NYC. Mostly folk dancing. Every Saturday night except the last 3 Saturdays of July (Bill's vacation)
- Moose Hall. Dover N.J. Squares and Jitterjive. Every Sat. Night. Small floor, 3 piece orchestra, Al Shaner calls, \$1 admit, free beer.

ONE TIME EVENTS

- Tuesday July 24. Square and folk dance party. Passaic N.J. YMCA 45 River Drive Passaic N.J. On the roof. Led by Rod La Farge.
- Saturday July 14. Free barn dance for teen-agers. Ed Durlachers Top Hands with Ed in person. 72nd St. and Central Park NYC.
- Thursday July 19th. Square and round dance. Borough Hall, Andover N.J. Al Green's Orchestra, Al Shaner calls.
- Saturday July 21 -- Sunday July 22. Ramapo Rangers Camp-Dance-Hike Party. Square dance at Egbert Lake Sat, night - camp overnight there, (tent required; campsite \$1) - hike and pick berries the next day. This is the huckleberry season there and they are very plentiful this year. (Early because of the unusual weather.)
- Coming. The Ramapo Rangers Picnic for Square and Folk Dancers. We'll let you know the date as soon as we get the priority on the picnic site!

DUDE RANCHES AND SUMMER RESORTS WITH SQUARE DANCE EVENINGS

Cinnabar Ranch. Peekskill N.Y.

Square dancing at the ranch every Tuesday and Saturday evening. Bill Stanfield calls with local orchestra.

Cinnaron Ranch. Peekskill N.Y.

Square dancing at the ranch every Saturday night.

Circle "E" Ranch Peekskill N.Y.

Square Dancing at the ranch every Saturday night. Slim Pauline calls with Marty Ingersol's Orchestra.

Arrowhead Lodge Ellenville N.Y.

Folk and square dancing with Henry Joseph. Week ends into Sept. Fredericks North View Farm E.Stroudsburg Pa. --- Restricted

Square dancing at the farm every Tuesday and Saturday night.

Hidden Valley Ranch Lake Luzerne N.Y.

Square dancing at the ranch every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday night. Walter Van Allen calls with Lennie Nelson and his Orchestra.

Manitou Ranch Garrison N.Y.

Square dancing at the ranch every Saturday night. Curley Altsonior calls with the Manitou Ranch Orchestra.

Maplehurst Ranch Croton Falls N.Y.

Square dancing every Saturday night. Professional caller and an orchestra.

Silver Bay (YMCA Resort) Lake George N.Y.

Square and folk dancing 5 nights per week. Music by the Sillers

Stanbrooke Ranch Rhinebeck N.Y.

Square dancing in Wing's Hall, Clinton Corners (5 miles away) every Saturday night. Farmer caller and local orchestra.

Sun Canyon Ranch Warrensburg N.Y.

Square dancing at the Ranch every Saturday night. Also every Wednesday night. Their own caller and orchestra.

White Horse Dude Ranch Wevertown N.Y.

Square dancing at the ranch every Monday night. Jimmy Casey calls with his own orchestra.

Also at nearby Glendale Park, Art Ingraham calls with his own orchestra every Saturday night.

We have had a great many requests for extra copies of the dance directory, and since it is impractical to publish larger editions of this paper using the present duplicating process, I am now printing a separate card with this information. I will gladly mail copies to anyone on request, and place their names on a mailing list to receive future copies as I plan to issue this card at regular intervals and keep the information up to date.

For future issues of the Rangers Bulletin there will be lists of Southwestern and Western Dude Ranches, with incidental square dance activity; lists of Rodeos and Fairs with square dancing contests, How-to-get-there listings of various square dance resorts etc.

And if I've left out you or any of your friends --- let me know; I try to keep track of everything and everybody!

Published for members of the Ramapo Rangers
by Rod La Farge 115 Cliff St., Haledon N.J.

Vol. I

August 1945

No. 8

Boosts for square dancing come from unexpected quarters these days; Macy's had three windows devoted to "What to wear for square dancing", record albums, etc. And have you noticed the perfume company with the square dance ads? Then there's the magazine 'Seventeen', a publication for teen-agers; in their July issue they had articles on rural fairs, rodeos, cowboys, ballad singers and --- square dancing. After that running start, they sponsored a square dance party (July 14) for teen-agers on the Mall in Central Park (NYC), with Ed Durlacher and His Top Hands. The teen-agers came all right -- literally thousands of them. And in all sorts of dress; Sloppy-Janes, farmers and their farmerettes, dirndl and what have you! The papers reported 4,000 dancing before 10,000 spectators; there sure were a lot of people there -- but all of New York's folk dance fraternity we could find in the jam were the Leifers and Anne Parish.

The hep-cats and alligators really took to the cow-capers; all the slick-chicks came in solid on the down-beat as hick-chicks -- and they knew their hay-play too. High? Every call had the Y.G. throwing swing-dings all over the Mall, --- if Ed stays in that groove he'll become the teenies new Swoonie! (He later praised the kids and told me it was one of the easiest crowds he had ever handled.) Added entertainment on the program was Jimmie Ameche and Josh White with his banjo.

Bill Smith was at Marshall's (July 14); he called a set including Chase That Dear, Pop Goes the Weasel and Bow to That Lady. Several New Zealand soldiers were there, jitterbugging and square dancing with wild abandon; I'm wondering what the results will be when they bring home these violent forms of social recreation! The young accordionist in Marshall's orchestra has been coming right along since he joined the outfit --- he has the approbation of the jitterbugs now. And Matty laid down his fiddle to dance a couple of numbers at the end of the evening.

Paul Shea is staying in Cambridge for the summer and writes to tell of a couple of the dance groups in the vicinity. Nadel's Harvard Folk Dance Group meets every Friday for American and European folk dances. (Paul says they all Hambo) He likes Ralph Pages Boston YWCA group, with difficult squares, lots of different longways dances (Ah! Helen and I will just have to get there for one visit before our Autumn calling and teaching schedule starts!) Paul says everyone swings well. Be seein' you, Paul.

Bill and Winnie Cairns spent their vacation in Maine, instead of at Silver Bay as they had planned. They wrote in telling of big square dances (at Higgin's Corners; doesn't that sound nice and rustic ??), hillbilly shows etc. They did some exhibiting at one of the affairs to the delight of the natives. Bill isn't sure if he will resume his Saturday night classes at Irving Plaza before Sept. 15, when the Sillers

return to play for him there. He will also have a new group starting in Sept. -- the Monday night square and folk dance class at the 17th Street (International) YWCA (NYC). Good luck Bill!

Henry Joseph dropped a card to tell me that he has changed his Tuesday night class at Irving Plaza to Thursday nights. (Too many meetings in the place on Tuesday nights.)

Starting in September I will be calling every Tuesday night at the Passaic YMCA; in October I'll start on an every Friday night square and folk dance class for beginners at the Passaic YWCA (Main Branch); and I'll probably be running squares on alternate Saturday nights at Fairleigh Dickinson College starting in Sept. or early Oct.

The Rangers' dance-camp week end was a lot of fun. The square dancing at Egbert's Hall was quite furious, (15 sets on the floor for a while) but by 12 o'clock the pace had taken it's toll and half of the native sons had gone home. Helen and I slept a bit late Sunday A.M., and when we got up the Laurences had gone for a swim and the Guses and the Van Sauns had already breakfasted and taken their tents down.

The whole gang spent most of the morning gathering mushrooms with Frieda and Jack presiding. With all the wet weather we have had, the fungi are putting out bumper crops; we all had baskets full before noon. And what a variety! From the red Beefsteak mushroom to the Green Russula; from the white Puffballs to the Black Trumpets!! Estelle and Frieda found a patch of Lactarius almost in the shadow of the tents. You should have seen the horrified face on one of the natives to whom we showed our harvest. "Rank poison, every dang one of 'em", he exclaimed. "I wouldn't touch 'em with a ten-foot pole!" (P.S. The whole party survives at the moment.)

In the afternoon we picked huckleberries, since the blueberries were not yet ripe in any quantity, and the best swamps were too flooded by the rains to permit passage.

Monday July 23 was supposed to be the date of one of the Rangers' Stage Door Canteen exhibitions with the Wright Rubes Orchestra. Then that early morning flash flood washed out the Red Cross transportation arrangements and left part of the orchestra marooned (literally), so this date was postponed. However, a set of the Rangers had assembled at the meeting place, and all attired in their rodeo best, decided not to waste the evening, but to pay Ed Durlacher a visit at his Riverside Drive outdoor dance. Ed draws a good crowd there (sponsored by the NY Park Dept. and Pepsi-Cola), and we had a nice evening. A number of the N.Y. regulars were there including Ivan Flores, Phil Maron, and Peter Van Beek with his daughter (cute). The squares progressed very smoothly, and when they came to a Virginnia Reel, Helen took time out to get a bird's eye view of the effect and I borrowed Ted Bever's wife for the set. She dances as well as Ted plays the banjo!

Helen and I managed to find time to pay Michael Herman's a visit -- together for once -- on July 27. He had a large crowd out, considering the weather, and several of the N.Y. group leaders were there; Aasmund Goytil, Tadeus Januskewicz, and Mr. and Mrs. Witschi. Kitty Toomey was there, of course, with a number of the other regulars. Mary Herman called a circle dance for trios (2 women, 1 man; a useful combination these days) to the tune of Red River Valley. The dance was very much like the one described by Ralph Page in his "Country Dance Book", and called the "Swedish Dance". And the army has given Michael a nice coat of tan; he's looking real rugged!

Saturday July 28 we picked up Jack and Frieda (suprise) and went to investigate the Saturday night square dancing at Sun Tan Lodge (Sun Tan Lake) which just started on July 21. Not a bad evening, in spite of the omnipresent rain. The orchestra did well, the caller was fair, although a bit awkward in handling the calls to fit the beginners and the experienced dancers at the same time. With a bit of good luck and a little less rain the place will probably grow and become one of the

permanent square dance resorts.

One set of the Rangers went to the Brooklyn Navy Yard Hospital with Wright's Rubes on Aug. 2, to entertain the boys there. Those Red Cross gals can really drive; they got us there in no time. The audience was generous with applause (I hear they walk out in droves on shows they don't like) and we were invited back again with sincerity. Our next service dates are: Aug. 14, Asbury Park Naval Hospital; Aug. 20, New York Stage Door Canteen; Aug. 27, Newark Canteen; Sept. 5, Staten Island Station Area Hospital; Sept. 10, Seamen's Institute; Oct. 10, Base 81 Hospital. And don't forget we're getting up a party to go to Budd Lake on Aug. 24.

Jack Van Saun held his annual hot dog raast for members of the IHC on Sat. Aug. 4, and since most of the Rangers also belong to the IHC, nearly our whole crew attended. We had a nice day looking over photos of mountain climbing, etc. (When I got home I looked over my ropes, counted my pitons and -- say, who wants to go for a practice climb next Sunday? After the feast of franks, corn, watermelon and so on, we got the dancers out to wear down Jack's newly surfaced driveway. We wore down both the driveway --- and the dance s!! Nice party Jack!

Lively practice session at Jack's Aug. 8; a couple of new contras and new recordings. Our two latest couples (Bill and Rena Kamena, Frank and Barbara Schwab are coming right along with the new folk dances.

Ed Durlacher will not be at the Mineola Fair this year; I don't know what's planned over there, but Paul Hunt is in charge of the squares. Ed is holding his Fourth Annual Square and Folk Dance Festival in Lost Battalion Hall, Queens. Program: exhibitions from 2 to 5 P.M. Ramapo Rangers will do a Kentucky Running Set, Al MacLeod's group is showing the Chorus Jig, Gertrude Polin is rehearsing a minuet, Jack Powelson a Play Party number, at least four of the top notch nationality groups will demonstrate, etc., etc.. In the evening there will be a Caller's Jamboree, including Al and Hal Brundage, Ralph Page, Lawrence Loy, Floyd Woodhull and probably Bascom Lamar Lunsford, and Benjamin Lovett. More details in next issue as this event is scheduled for Oct. 21.

Hobart Marshall will hold his Seventh Annual Caller's night on Labor Day evening Sept. 3. It's always a grade A good time with almost all square dancing and 15 to 20 callers. (I'M one - and have I a new and violent version of Billy Boy to contribute to the slaughter! 8.30 start.

Florence Blume is leading a folk festival at the Newark YMCA (53 Washington St., Newark) on Thursday Sept. 20. Start 8.00 P.M. Her weekly group starts there on Thursday Oct. 4.

My Tuesday night group at the Passaic YMCA opens Tue. Oct. 2 with an orchestra, and my beginners class at the Passaic YMCA will start on Oct. 5 with a free lesson. Information on request - tell your friends.

Morris Grange (Troy Hills) is open --- who wants to go up with us one of these Friday nights?

"The Daddy Of Them All", the Cheyenne Frontier Days Rodeo, drew a gate of 12,000 opening day. The boys shot at \$25,000 in prize money. They will have their semi-centennial next year, and that will be a party worth taking the trip for!

Cowboys n Indians

That show you shouldn't miss, the Calgary Stampede, broke their attendance and a number of other records this year. They really have themselves a time there; a week of competitions, parades, Indian exhibitions and ceremonies, square dancing, etc. First place rodeo winners this year: bronc riding(open) - Bill Linderman, bronc riding(Canadian) - Frank Duce, bareback riding - Gerald Roberts, calf roping - Floyd Peters. Amusing ruling there; all cow-boys must wear 10 gallon hats while in the rodeo area or forfeit 5% of their points. Everett Colborn of the Madison Square Garden Rodeo was around looking the boys (and girls) over.

Three tribes of Indians; the Blackfeet, the Stoneys and the Sarcees, paraded and competed for various prizes. Some of the names are surely intriguing; Mrs. Walking Buffalo, Jo Catface, Tom Turn Up Nose and Joe Shot One Side! And their costumes are as colorful as their names!

A cowboy square dance at the Hudson's Bay Company lot topped off the affair, with 4,000 dancing to the music of Pop Cordick and his band.

Another close-up-the-town affair is the "Days of '47" a two-weeks commotion in Utah. Rodeos, square dancing, beauty queens, etc. They are planning a centennial in 1947, and judging by the annual celebration they'll probably suspend all other business in the state for a month or two! At any rate try not to miss it.

The Snake River Stampede at Nampa pulled a capacity crowd too. One feature of this show was a cowboy quadrille on horseback. And the police complained of the buckaroos riding their broncs into the town's business establishments! Yippee!!!!

The Graburn Gap Oldtimers Association held their annual Dominion Day picnic with over 2,000 attending. A day of rodeo events was climaxed with a square dance that lasted until dawn:- the men are still men out there!

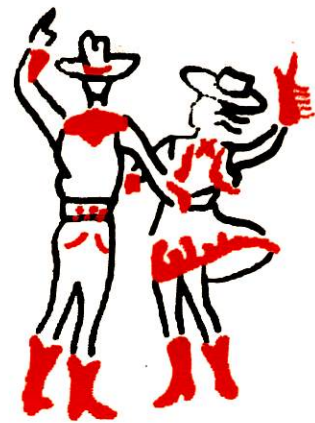
First place winners in the Cheyenne Frontier Days Rodeo; bulldogging- Bill Lowry, bronc riding (saddle) - Bill Linderman, roping- Walter Poage.

Boulder, Col. Pow Wow Days Rodeo 1st places; bronc riding (saddle) - Bill Mc Macken, bronc riding (bareback) - Fred Badsky, calf roping - Homer Pettigrew (13.4 sec), bulldogging - Jack Wade. They had a big crowd at the square dance contest. Four teams placed: Lefthand Grange, Valley Farmers, Long's Peak Grange, and Altona Grange.

Tilley Stampede first places; bronc riding (saddle) - I. Sunstrom, bronc riding (bareback) - B. Stockwell, calf roping - R. Jacobson. and a super-doooper cowboy ball concluded the affair.

The Eagle Lodge and Bannock Creek Indians completed a four-day Sun Dance near Pacatello, Idaho on July 24. They wave the sun up on the fourth A.M. and celebrate with a barbecue. (And watermelon, yumm)mm)

McGregor, (Texas) rodeo first places; (A-first day, B 2nd day) Calf roping - (A) A. Young (B) Alex Hardin, bronc riding (saddle) (A) Eddie Cameron (B) split: Les Hood, Bill MacSprott, bronc riding (bareback) Harold Watson, cowgirls race (A) split: Eula Henson, Dona Henson (B) Dona Henson. Bulldogging * (A) Johnnie Bell (B) Sam Stuart. Bull Riding - Genn Vick.



RANGERS

Published by Rod La Farge 115 Cliff St. Haledon N.J.
Vol. I September 1945 No. 9

Folk and square dancers in the metropolitan area were deeply grieved to hear of the death of Mr. Siller on August 18. Mr. and Mrs. Siller have been the top folk dance musicians for years in this section and his passing is an irreplaceable loss to the folk dance world and to his many friends.

Ed Laurence rode up to Marshall's with us for an evening of square dancing on August 11. Catherine was away on her vacation and he was a lone wolf for the evening ---- with the accent on the wolf. And you should have seen the young tender morsels he selected for partners, including that red-head.....!! Matty's time at Marshall's is getting short; he leaves for six months in Arizona on Sept. 1st, and we'll sure miss him.

On August 14, the Rangers had scheduled an exhibition with the Wright Rubes at the Naval Hospital in Asbury Park. One set made the trip:- Ed and Catherine Laurence, Gay and Lot Adler, Erwin and Estelle Guse, Jack and Frieda Van Saun, Rod and Helen La Farge. The Red Cross drove us down, and just as we entered town, VJ Day was announced. We gave our show in the local theatre as scheduled; a lot of the boys were too bandaged up to go out and celebrate with the mad crowd. After the show we came out to find that the Red Cross drivers had vanished to some unfindable party. With all the stores, stands and restaurants closed, we wandered around (in cowboy costumes) hopefully shaking doors until at one place the proprietress suddenly dashed out and herded us in slamming the door behind to bar the hungry mob. We found that this good fortune was due to the fact that people had been so hospitable to her on her vacation in Texas that she just didn't have the heart to see a cowboy go hungry! We did not tell her we were Jersey cowboys. (And the waitress was so excited that she spilled ten cups of hot coffee all over herself!) Eventually all the Rangers got home, but the bagpiper and the drummer of the Wright group were lost in the shuffle while leading an impromptu parade of a wild collection of lunatics in the general direction of Atlantic City! They got back the next day after sleeping all that was left of the night in a field.

The Rangers devoted a considerable portion of the August 15 practice to a couple of the English Country Dances, having decided to try these on some of our service dates, which will continue --- VJ Day didn't take the boys out of the Hospitals, and they will need entertainment for some time to come.

We exhibited one set at the Stage Door Canteen on August 20; the first time since they moved to their new quarters in the Hotel Diplomat.

I called our usual routine and the new Billy Boy. (There are two other calls using Billy Boy current in these parts at the moment; one in Ed Durlacher's which is on his Decca album and the other is the usual Jersey version; I'm tacking the latter on the last page of this issue, and using the new one in my new book of Jersey singing calls which will be published around the first of the year.) Wrights Rubes furnished the music and other entertainment for the evening. The hangers dancing: Jack and Frieda Van Saun, Bill and Rena Kamena, Erwin and Estelle Guse, and Ed and Catherine Laurence. It was the Kamenas first appearance with the Rangers and they worked real smooth; Bill looked quite natty in red satin and Stetson, and Rena sure looked good to the Gals; black panties and all!

Square dancing is getting a lot of publicity in the N.Y. papers of late. The Herald Tribune (Sun. Aug. 19) had three columns with photos covering Ed's Monday nights at the 105th St. location. They tabbed 8,000 there on Aug. 6. The N.Y. Times came through with a two page picture spread in their magazine section (Sun. Aug. 26) also mostly of Ed's layout. In view of the 8,000 attendance we were suprised to note how many of the shots were of dancers we knew. (Mr. O'Brien and Laura, Peter Van Beek and his daughter etc., etc.) The Times also noted my new dance directory (John Martin in his dance column! and my mail box has bulged ever since!

The current movie "Christmas in Connecticut" shows a Virginia Reel in one sequence with what looks like a bit of the Beaus of Albany cut in. I wonder when the film people are going to discover that several other country dances look much better than the Virginia Reel for bits?

Bill, Winnie and Alexander Cairns came up to help us celebrate the end of gas rationing by driving up to Budd Lake with three carloads of Rangers. (Aug. 24) Al Shaner, Al Green and his orchestra have moved from Budd's Pavillion to the Wigwam which is about a half mile past the traffic light on Route 6 at Budd Lake. They have a nice floor since they have social dancing the rest of the week and a pleasant crowd. A good gate too considering the driving rain and that it was their first night there. Bill and Winnie joined the Rangers in a demonstration of Lady Walpole's Reel done at a terrific pace to the tune of the Rakes of Mallow!. Almost makes a different dance of it, but it was the nearest thing the orchestra knew well and really lots of fun! Most of the gang were in folkish or cowboy outfits and the local jitterbugs looked on in dismay as during the evening Hasapikos, polkas, schottisches and sundry other folk dances were deftly fitted to the jive numbers! Attending the brawl:- Bill, Winnie and Alexander (age 18mo) Cairns. Rod and Helen La Farge, Frank and Barbara Schwab, Bill and Rena Kamena, Jack and Frieda Van Saun, Ed and Catherine Laurence, Erwin and Estelle Guse. Alexander slept all the way back to Haledon in an improvised bassinet and on into the A.M. but the rest of us didn't hit the hay till 4.30 A.M. what with folk dance gossip and record playing.

Hobart Marshall held his 7th annual callers night on Labor Day evening. Quite a whoopee affair with a packed house. The only new calls for Boontonites were my new Billy Boy and a version of Blue-beard done to the tune of Oh! Susanna. Callers present included John Villane (North Plainfield), George Vigor (Plainfield), Herbert Hann (Somerville), Pop Stout (Plainfield), Don Conine (Verona), Vernon Beach, Jack Baily (Paterson), Harvey Marshall (Boonton), Hobart Marshall (Boonton), Chuck Zintel (Avenel), Ed Porter (Somerville), and Rod La Farge (Haledon). The Laurences and the Van Sauns went up with us; the other Rangers were all out camping over the three day holiday. We drove home by the back road through Taylortown, hoping to get another glimpse of the deer herd that roams that section. We spotted only one deer, a red fox and a phew-pussy (very dead).

Helen and I went checking up on openings of the various square dance spots that we print in our directory. Sewaren is open, and from the enthusiasm expressed by a number of freckle-faced lassies waiting there a full half-hour before the scheduled opening time, it should be a nice

lively place for any of you who care to go down some Saturday evening. The place is on piles out in Arthur's Kill, so it is probably a bit more pleasant now than in the dead of winter!

Another amusing stop on the evenings' tour was the Mt. Bethel Fire-house. They were having their annual Harvest Home Celebration with tables set up on horses all over the place. In the hall people were frantically stuffing their food down so that the tables could be removed for the square dancing. Next to the hall there is a little country graveyard and here the overflow crowd was sitting on the tombstones eating and watching the carnival wheels of chance spin out their kewpie dolls!. The harvest home is a big event there and the farms were dark for miles around as we passed through.

The Rangers exhibited some squares at the Merchant Seamen's Club with the Wright Rubes Orchestra on Sept. 10th. Rangers attending were Helen and Rod LaFarge, Frieda and Jack VanSaun, Estelle and Erwin Guse, Rena and Bill Kamena, Catherine and Ed Laurence. We finished up early and dragged the whole group, Wrights party included, up to pay Ed Durlacher a visit on his last night of the season at the Riverside Drive Spot. We were in time for the last set, one number of which was called by Brundage who was down for a visit also. He called Solomon Levi.

The International Center YMCA (17th St. NYC) is planning a folk dance leaders club or council as a sort of exchange center to keep the various folk dances and dancers straightened out. Tell you all about it in our next issue as the thing develops a little more definite form.

Since the dance directory dated Sept. 15 came out we have received notices of the following openings:- David Hahn, folk dance group at Arlington Hall NYC every Wednesday night, also at Studio 61, Carnegie Hall NYC every Sunday from 6 to 9 P.M.; Ella Sonkin, square and folk dancing every Saturday night at Studio 306, 9 East 59th St. NYC, English Country Dance Society, every Thursday night at City Center NYC, Morris class 7.30 to 8.30; English and American Country Lancing 8.30 to 10.30 PM. Pop Stout at Three Towers Ballroom Route 31 South Somerville N.J.; Pythian Hall, Newburgh N.Y. Bob De Long calls every Wednesday night; Cronomer Valley Firehouse N.Y., Ray Bruyn calls every 1st and 3rd Wednesday, and in Ridgefield Conn. Al Broadhurst calls with the Old Timers every Sat. night. Also Pop Stout has discontinued the Wed. night affairs at the Jefferson School in Plainfield N.J.

On Sept. 18 a group of folk dance leaders met in New York to plan a city folk dance center to be run cooperatively by a number of leaders, and open every night of the week. How much of the evenings discussion and attendance was intended to be confidential I'm not certain, so I'll just wait and give you whatever official developments come out of the affair.

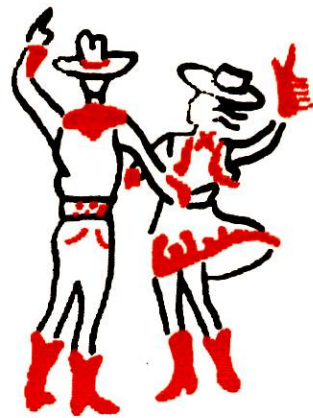
Helen's mother tells us that Frances Wesolowska and her Polish WAF group gave a folk dance exhibition at a picnic in Warren Point (almost in my back yard!) a couple of weeks ago. Sorry we didn't know of that one in advance.

Well, I'm sorry this issue is a bit late, but I had not been ahead of the darn thing when VJ Day came. And Here is that Billy Boy call:-

Intro: All join your hands and you circle to the left, then you circle to the right, charming Billy; doe-si-doe your corner gal, swing the one you call your pal, she's a young thing and cannot leave her mother.

Figure (repeat 3 times): First couple to the right, there you circle to the left, then you circle to the right, charming Billy, doe-si-doe the other gal, swing the one you call your pal she is young and she cannot leave her mother.

Break: Oh, you all join your hands and you circle to the left, all the way around, charming Billy; doe-si-doe your corners all, swing the one you call your pal; she's a young thing and cannot leave her mother. REPEAT FIGURE (3 TIMES) AND BREAK (ONCE) FOR EACH COUPLE.



RAMAPO RANGERS

Published by Rod La Farge 115 Cliff St. Haledon N.J.
Vol. I October 1945 No. 10

We went out to check up on the Rockland Co. (N.Y.) area for our dance directory on Sat. Sept. 29, swinging in a big circle up through Liberty and back around through Middletown. We found Bob DeLong at Freer's Hotel in Gardiner, calling for a small but willing crowd, some of whom sported cowboy costumes. When they swung, they swung; they smashed one table while I was there! I noticed one variation of the allemande left there; the men gave left hands to their corners, and placing the other hand on the ladies waist, turned her as in ladies chain. I called my new Billy Boy for them before we left. Ray Bruyn was calling at Cronomer Valley Firehouse with a nice lively crowd; he was calling a Paul Jones when we wandered in. Ray and the Moonshiners are a nice crew; you should drop in on them sometime. We made a dash for Middletown to see Gary Vandershaff call at the American Legion Hall, but it was closed when we arrived (I don't know what time that was, but we got back to Haledon at 4.45 A.M.)

Charles Crabbe Thomas of Woodbury N.J. is putting out a mimeographed publication called 'American Squares'. You can tell he is a lawyer; he prints it on 8½ x 14 paper ---- the standard legal size, but not the size of the usual loose-leaf binder. He offers a sample copy to anyone sending in their name and address to him at 38 South Girard St. Woodbury N.J. I have the first two issues at hand; they contain square dance calls and descriptions, the double schottische etc., and doings of his dance group 'Denim and Calico'. Also a species of editorial warfare with Michael Herman's 'Folk Dancer', which duel is now over I have been told. And Jack Powelson laments the lack of square dance records without calls; I intend to publish a list of such records in the January issue of the Ramapo Rangers Bulletin in a special square dance number to start the year off right. It will be quite a paper I hope, with (a) a new name, (b) new size 5½ x 8 (c) letterpress printed with illustrations etc. (d) color cover and regular booklet style binding. In addition to the record list the issue will contain a bibliography of square dancing and other items of lasting interest to dancers and callers. Be sure your subscription is in!

Helen and I have been dancing recently with the Polish Folk Art and Dance group. Very nice people, nice Polish folk dances (Trojok, Mazur, Kokotek, etc.). It's a closed group but they are having an open house on Saturday evening Nov. 17 at the International Center YWCA, 341 East 17th St. N.Y.C. You'll be assured of a pleasant evening if you attend.

I managed to find time to put in a few Thursday evenings at the English Country Dance Society. If you're not the type that falls

asleep at the switch you can fill out an entertaining evening there, but if you can't stay alert you can certainly cause a scramble! May Gadd has been there for the past few Thursdays, on a furlough from her Texas USO assignment. She brought back a Texas Square Dance (caps are intentional) called 'Two Hold Up and Two Go Through', that proved exciting. It's rather complicated, with an Arkansas Dosey-Doe on the end of each figure. And incidently my long-awaited order of English records has at last arrived; Thady You Gander, Flowers of Edinburgh, Hunt the Squirrel, Black Nag, Ribbon Dance, Mary and Dorothy, Tempest, If All the World Were Paper and The Merry, Merry Milkmaids.

The proposed dance leaders group has had a couple meetings at the International Center, but to date has done nothing drastic. Margot Mayo is out of the WACs and attended one of the meetings as did representatives of the Danish, French, Ukrainian, Fillipino, and other groups. Elizabeth Burchenal, La Meri, Durlacher and a number of others sent their approvals or blessings but couldn't attend the meetings. I didn't have time to make a list of the international leaders present, but among others Henry Joseph, Harry Molbert and Mary Herman attended. The Hermans by the way, intend to try having their Arlington Hall classes open every night next year, I have been told. The group leaders will meet again very shortly. Bill Cairns is still temporary chairman of the business.

The Ramapo Rangers gave a square dance exhibition at the Paterson YM-YWHA on Sunday Oct. 14. Members demonstrating were:- Barbara and Frank Schwab, Helen and Rod La Farge, Frieda and Jack Van Saun, Estelle and Erwin Guse, and Rena and Bill Kamena. We did the Ladies Chain Medley, The Lanciers and a Western style square. And that reminds me; Mr. Thomas writes to ask if our girls really dress like the heading of this paper. He says his females would spend the evening holding down their skirts with one hand if they dressed like that ---- well our girls do dress like that; in fact most of them have at least three complete cowgirl outfits, all with short skirts either with fringes or with leather scrollwork. The secret of their free-swinging in such an outfit is that the panties and blouses are all one unit; a sort of romper as it were, and the panties are made to match the skirts. With this arrangement the blouse won't pull out, the panties are always where they belong and the demands of modesty are satisfied -- unless one hasn't been to a theatre or bathing beach for the last 30 years! In addition to this rodeo regalia, most of the group have outfits (not authentic) based on European Peasant costumes, a few have the real folk costumes and most of the girls have American costumes of the 1860-1880 period. (Also note to Mr. Thomas: the buckskin jacket came from Kauffman's, 139 East 24th St. NYC, who carry quite a line of rodeo items. There will be a list of such places in the aforesaid Jan. issue.)

Here's this month's singing call. Tune, Turkey in the Straw -- use your own pet introduction.

Ladies in the center back to back,
Gents all around the outside track,
Pass your own, then what'll you do?
Swing that one you're comin' to!
Step right back and see her smile,
Step right up and swing her awhile,
Step right back and see her grin,
Step right up and swing her again!

Call this four times -- you'll have your original partner back; then after an allemande left, a grand right and left repeat the figure with the gents in the center back to back.

Mr. Tiger who calls down Mendham and Pottersville way (he's listed in the current dance directory) sends in a nice photo of his all girl square dance orchestra 'Tigers Lady Bugs'. We'll have to drop in to see them some evening -- if I ever get one off! Pop Stout is holding A caller's night on Sunday Nov. 4, 8.00 P.M. at the Three Towers, Route 31, South Somerville N.J. That's one I can make at least!

The Poles mustered an estimated 15,000 for the annual Pulaski Day parade up Fifth Ave. in New York. About 10% were in Polish costume (mostly Cracow) and made a pretty sight with their gay ribbons and bright beaded jackets. One group that made the N.Y. picture pages was a mother and two children, each with two dolls -- all in the Cracow costume. About halfway through the parade it began to rain, and it was distressing to see the havoc wrought among the costumes. The only dry looking group were the Tatra Mountaineers (they wear woolen outfits about 1/2 inch thick) but Mr. Gromada later told me the damage to his group was considerable.

The Polish Folk Art And Dance Group missed the parade (and wetting) having come over to Jersey to attend --- of all things -- a square dance. It was a benefit dance for a NJAC scholarship fund. And they can square dance too!

On Sunday Oct. 21, the Ramapo Rangers went over to Lost Battalion Hall to exhibit a running set at Ed Durlachers Fourth Annual Square and folk dance Festival. (Just received a nice thank you letter from Ed) Here is the program from the event:

AFTERNOON

Minuet Group led by Gertrude Polin
Heel and Toe Polka Group led by Rose Marcus
Kentucky Running Set Ramapo Rangers led by Rod La Farge
Contra Dance Group led by Al McLeod
Nightmare Square Squares and Rounds led by Don Chambers
Polish Dances .. Polish Folk Art and Dance Group; John Galinsky,
Ukrainian Dances Danse Ukraine leader.
Scotch Dances Castle Roy Group
Irish Dances Philo-Celtic Society
Roping Exhibit Madison Square Garden Rodeo Ropers
Audience participation... Polka, schottische, hambo and squares.

Evening Caller's Jamboree with calls by:

Ed Durlacher Freeport L.I.
Floyd Woodhull Elmira N.Y.
Lawrence Loy Amherst Mass.
Hal Brundage Danbury Conn.
Ralph Page Nelson N.H.
Larry Cairns Queens L.I.

A good time was had by all, including Ray Bruyn, Gary Vandershaff, and Bob DeLong who came down from Rockland County to attend the affair, and other assorted visiting callers. And -- say, before I forget, Ralph Page is getting Married! His downfall was dancing in my set after the weary Rangers had gone home to catch up on their sleep, and she knows her squares, so don't try to cut any corners on her! Rangers showing at this affair:- Bill and Rena Kamena, Ed and Catherine Laurence, Erwin and Estelle Guse, Jack and Frieda Van Saun, Rod and Helen LaFarge.

We had to pass up our last exhibition night at the Stage Door Canteen, before it closed, since we couldn't round up enough fresh Rangers on the 22nd; the crew that appeared at Durlachers on the 21st was still all worn out.

I went down to Jersey City Medical Center on Oct. 25 to call the dances at the Nurse's Square Dance Jamboree. Dycky and the Hillbillies furnished the music. The nurses really let their hair down and in spite of the fact that three-quarters of them were beginners and a oversupply of gals, they square danced --- and how. And did Dykie send the jitterbugs! During intermission we taught them the butterfly polka, the Badger Gavotte and the Rye Waltz.

Oct. 27 I called for the Sagebrush Troubadours at Thorpe Hall, Lincoln Park. They had a polka-conscious crowd -- quite a few Poles-- and most of the numbers between the squares were polkas. Helen and I did an exhibition for them. The number that really got them though, was the Jackson White Reel (the North Jersey hillbilly version of the Virginina Reel). They darn near killed themselves!



RAMAPO RANGERS

Published by Rod La Farge 116 Cliff St. Haledon N.J.
Vol. I November 1945 No. 11.

The Polish Folk Art and Dance Group continues to practice at the International Center, and on November 17th will hold an open house party there. They also continue to square dance over in Jersey! Bill Cairn's group (international folk dancing) meets downstairs on the same night and apparently is doing quite well. Bill has a new public address system.

The masquerade square dance at the Passaic YMCA went over very well, with nearly all the dancers in costume. Helen decorated the gym with black cat cutouts --- 10 feet high! Very startling against the white handball courts as one walked into the place. A group of the Paterson Y Outing Club came up with Ed Laurence, and the Guses and Van Sauns also brought a group of friends. An album of square dance records was awarded as a costume prize. Roll the Barrel and the Jackson White Reel were the two pet dances of the evening --- after the latter, Mr. Hendershott (the Y Program Secretary, who hails from the South) was heard to say something like "pixallated ridge-runners"! Lynn Nichols and the orchestra turned out some nice renditions, notably the Clover Blossom Quadrille and a breakdown version of the Sicilian Circle. The figures of this quadrille are of interest as they represent a transition stage between the quadrille proper and the modern square dance. There is but one part.

CLOVER BLOSSOM QUADRILLE (Tune: When Clover's in Bloom)

- Intro. Honor partners, honor corners, all join hands and circle left all the way around; swing partners.
- Figure. Heads forward and back; forward and four hands half around.
Sides the same.
Heads half promenade.
Sides the same.
Head ladies chain
Sides the same.
- Chorus. All swing your corner lady and promenade the ring. (Back to the ladies position)

We spent a busy Wednesday evening silk-screening the covers for a big batch of the dance directory. Kici (our black cat) had a most adventurous party -- trying to walk over the sticky paint and track it all over the house! After the job was done Helen swore she would never look at another cowboy!!

The English Country Dance Society is picking up members from week to week; we had the floor well filled Thursday. You should drop in on

some Thursday evening; Phillip Merrill can put that real lilt into the English dances. After the English session (they quit early) we took a peek at the group in the Broadway Tabernacle. Their crowd is also growing --- growing larger, and also more swing-wacky! In spite of all the hullabaloo about racial equality, non-discrimination, etc., this is the only place run by whites where I have ever seen negroes treated as social equals at a folk or square dance. There were a number of negroes there Thursday --- and all having a good time. Everybody calls there; they had a different one for every square while we watched!!

Paul Shea dropped in on my Friday night class at the Passaic YWCA just in time to be broken in to the Arkansas version of the much disputed Western dosey-doe. After the Y closed we dropped him at Sweisguths to finish off the evening and himself! He, by the way, has become a real contra dance bug since spending most of the summer up in Ralph Page's territory.

The Fairleigh Dickinson students have finally boiled down to those who like it and can take it --- and did they take it and like it at the college Saturday night! All fast Western squares left them not at all wilted, that murderous Jackson White Reel only made them pant for more, and they finished the evening by dancing Forward Heads, Sides Divide twice in a row -- by request! They even took the smooch dance in stride and with a half-dozen new variations. We stopped by on the way home at the Rosemont Firehouse and the IHC Ragamuffin Square Dance was still going strong with about three-quarters of the Ramapo Rangers there whooping it up for all they were worth.

Sunday night November 4th was callers night at Manchester Dance, Three Towers Ballroom (2 miles south of Somerville on Route 31). Nice crowd and quite swing-wacky; I think I made a bit of a mistake in calling Billy Boy for them -- they would have probably liked Swingo-Ringo better. They sure liked to swing! Pap Stout is the regular caller there, and Mrs. Stout plays the piano in the orchestra. Nice band -- they follow well. Pap Stout tells me he is starting up the Wednesday night squares again at Jefferson School in Plainfield N.J. Among the calls of the evening was a version of forward up six and back done as a singing call to the tune of 'When Johnny Comes Marching Home', and a variation of Honolulu Baby (or the Spanish Cavalliero) in which there was no circle three -- all swinging. The crowd also liked a 'butterfly whirl' melange done to a very fast orchestration of Golden Slippers. In some of the sets I noted that the men swung the ladies around at arms length, left hand around on 'ladies chain' instead of the usual left hands joined and right on her waist. John Villani had a real gripe -- they've put him on a night shift; he can't get off to call and his orchestra languishes on the vine. He was out at Ed Durlacher's Jamboree but missed the afternoon doings. And he craves the call for 'Ten Little Indians'. I'll have to sort through my old notes; I have a couple of versions, I hope one of them is what he is looking for. Mr. Tiger also has had a bit of bad luck; his pet violinist in his all-girl band must lay off indefinitely because of an arm affliction. He is also suffering from a bit of nostalgia for the 'good old days', quadrilles and line dances. It seems that the sect down there was once the center of a large millionaire colony, the servants being mostly English and Scotch who added their own country dances to the local shindigs. I'll have to investigate a bit -- don't be too surprised if I come back with a cross between 'Gathering Peasecods' and 'Step Right Up and See Her Smile'.....???? Mr. Tiger says he is coming up and pay us a visit some night -- girl band and all. Perhaps we can beat him to it and pay him a visit at one of his spots with a set or two in costume some evening? Don Pierce has opened at Legion Hall in Morristown, I think it's Saturday nights. Hobart Marshall looked a bit weary; said he had been out every night of the preceeding week (Halloween). 'Uncle George' Vigor was running all over the place with an unattached mike in his hand -- in all the uproar I didn't get whether he had just come from a job or was just going out on one.

They have their own version of the Varsoviienne down there, (what place hasn't, I wonder?) this is about 35 variations I've met. They make two separate dances of it; first they did the pointing with the waltz interspersed. Then after a few rounds of this they pause a few moments, then when the orchestra strikes up again they do the mazurka, also with a waltz break. They invited the Ramapo Rangers down some Sunday evening; I hope we can catch up to our invitations someday -- and Mr. Thomas has invited us down to dance with his Denim and Calico Club.

I made arrangements (?) with the Manchester Dance people to mail me a list of the callers present, as I missed a few in arriving late, but since they haven't shown up yet, I'll have to run this issue without them. If they show up I'll put them in next month.

The Ramapo Rangers met at the Guses on Monday evening Nov. 5 and decided among other things that future practices will be held at the Passaic YMCA where larger quarters are available, as it has become obvious that we cannot squeeze three or four practice sets into the present room. Most of the practice time of the evening went to English Country Dances, Western squares and a Kreuz Konig session for our newer members. Present at this meeting: Estelle and Erwin Guse, Catherine and Ed Laurence, Frieda and Jack Van Saun, Rena and Bill Kamena, Barbara and Frank Schwab, Helen and Rod La Farge, Dot and Gay Adler, Eileen and Joe Rourke, Mary Arristibia and Marie Larkin.

The American Square Dance Group is resuming its regular open house parties on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month at 40 East 40th St. N.Y.C. Margot Mayo, recently returned from the WACs, is again leading the group.

Michael Herman's 'Folk Dancer' for October includes music and Directions for a version of the Sicilian Tarantella -- the version that fits Victor Record V12567. I also note that Michael will teach El Pericon on Dec. 14. This is that figure dance from Uruguay with the calls in Spanish. (Bost record #50009B) At the end of the dance the participants form their national emblem with their kerchiefs.

Henry Joseph has been forced to give up his Thursday night group at Irving Plaza -- the dancers' feet disturbed the various meetings going on in the building. At the moment the group is homeless.

The International Center YMCA, 341 East 17th St. NYC has published a series of mimeographed sheets giving the music and directions for 156 folk dances. These sheets are on sale individually at from 5 to 15¢ per dance, depending upon the number of sheets involved.

My Wednesday evening series of lessons at the Paterson YMCA has been completed -- I now have Wednesdays free again; the Passaic YMCA series is moving to Monday nights (9:30 to 12, following the Rangers 8:00 to 9:30 practice session), so I'll have Tuesdays open also. The regular monthly YMCA square dances with orchestra will however be on either Tuesday or Wednesday evenings in the future. The next one will be Tuesday Nov. 20, 9:30 to 12 P.M. Also add to the one-time events; I'm calling at Sparkill N.Y. on Saturday Nov. 10 and in the firehouse at Franklin Lakes N.J. on Wednesday evening Nov. 21; both dates with the Sagebrush Troubadours Orchestra, -- and don't forget the Passaic YMCA dance on Nov. 16, I'm calling there with the Wright Rubes band.

The Ramapo Rangers gave an exhibition at the Victory Bond Rally in Wayne Jr. High School on Thursday evening Nov. 8 with the Wright Rubes furnishing the music for the affair. We did the usual Rangers Routine, Billy Boy and Lady Walpole's Reel -- to the tune of 'The Wearing of the Green'**** the orchestra didn't know any of the regular reels. It went very well at that! (Helen threatens to shoot me if I start concocting singing calls to her pet contra dances; she's had that 'is-nothing-sacred' look ever since I borrowed some Polish tunes for square dance calls). Rangers at the rally: Jack and Frieda Van Saun, Erwin and Estelle Guse, Ed and Catherine Laurence, Gay and Dot Adler, Rod and Helen La Farge. As usual, the Red Cross furnished the transportation -- and Jack and Frieda spent most of the trip in an attempt to convert the drivers to square dancing!



RAMAPO GRANGERS

Published by Rod La Farge 115 Cliff St. Haledon N.J.
Vol. I December 1945 No. 12.

We note that Ed Durlacher has edited a Play Party Book (Devin Adair, Publisher, \$2.50) My book of singing calls will be ready in January; the edition is limited, if you want to be sure of a copy send for it early. (\$1.00 to 115 Cliff St. Haledon). I also hear there will be a book of Polish folk material out next year, and there are rumors of a book on West Indian Dances.

Don Conine is no longer calling at Franklin Grange -- he's gone back to college and the grangers are experimenting with various callers and orchestras. The Wigwam at Budd Lake has closed for the winter, but Al Shaner is still calling on Saturday nights at the Moose Hall in Dover, and also the following one-time dates with Al Green's orchestra: Friday Dec. 7 at the Borough Hall, Roseland N.J.; Thursday Dec. 13 at the Borough Hall, Andover N.J.; Tuesday Dec. 18 at the Clubhouse Washington Valley N.J. Also specials at the Dover Moose Hall on Sun. evening Dec. 2, Dec. 9 and New Years Eve Dec. 31.

Gary Vandershaff is still calling with his Mountain Ramblers at the American Legion Hall in Middletown; and in addition sends in these one-time dates:- Friday Dec. 14 for the Minnesink Hose Co. at the Community Hall in Unionville N.Y.; Thursday Dec. 20 for the Eagle Fire Co. at the Central Fire House in Middletown N.Y.; Friday Dec. 28 for the Young Peoples Club at the North Con. Church on Beacon St. Middletown N.Y.; and on New Years Eve for the Wallkill American Legion at their home on Wisner Ave.

I see that Don Pearce is doing a fair amount of calling up around Pompton and Abramson and his band were at the OES in Hawthorne last week. Pap Stout is again calling at the Jefferson School in Plainfield William Barzell is leading the "Ukrainian Folk Dancers" (open to all) at the Dance Players Studio, 154 W. 56 St. NYC every Sunday at 5.30 P.M., John Tukey writes that they have a folk and square dance group in the Elementary School on Nassau St. in Princeton N.J. every Tuesday from 8 to 10 P.M. The American Square Dance Group has Moved to 1657 Bwdy., NYC and will hold the first open house there on Dec. 8 at 8.30 P.M.

The Ramapo Rangers are now meeting on Monday nights at the Passaic YMCA. Out for the first night at the new practice hall were Jack and Frieda Van Saun, Estelle and Erwin Guse, Ed and Catherine Laurence, Frank and Barbara Schwab, Bill and Rena Kamena, Gay and Dot Adler, Joe and Eileen Rourke, Marie Larkin, Mary Arristibia, Helen and Rod La Farge.

I've put in a couple of Saturday nights calling at the Sparkill (N.Y.) American Legion Hall with the Sagebrush Troubadours. A very nice hall

and friendly people. They like their square dances more complicated than most places prefer -- they just dote on such things as Dip and Dive, Progressive Billy Boy, Lucy Long, Left Hand Lady Under, and they fell for the Western Dosey-doe (Arkansas version). The Sagebrushers are beginning to play jigs and reels for the squares and the dancers really enjoy a change from the Standard Favorites (Nellie Gray, etc.) I used a new, extra big amplifier on these jobs and the crowds sure 'shush', in fact they practically cower! But are they full of pep! After the usual three dances of a square set they scream for more -- and let the sissy fox trots fall where they may!

Several of the Rangers dropped in at the Franklin Lakes Firehouse where I called with the Troubadours on Thanksgiving Eve. Also along were Al and Charlotte Coxley and the Winters showed up in force. Nice evening -- good cider too! There was one set of sub teen-agers on the floor that waited out the smooch dance with crimson embarrassment! Jack took a lovely spill whilst doing -- of all things -- Looby Loo!

I dropped in on Michael Herman's Tuesday night group at Arlington Hall (Nov. 27), but had to leave early --- there were about a hundred present when I left. Leroy Balje and Kitty Toomey were there, with several others of the Friday Night Crowd. Michael notes in "The Folk Dancer" that he has issued a list of folk dance groups -- I haven't seen anything of it so I can't comment.

Bill Cairns has resigned as chairman of the attempt to form an international dance leaders association in NY, but I am later given to understand that the project is still very much alive.

Any of you who can arrange to get to the American Museum of Natural History on a Thursday afternoon would probably feel well repaid for the effort on one of the dates scheduled for their "Around the World with Dance and Song" series. The remaining events are:-- Dec. 13 African Dances Past and Present by Asadata Dafora and Company; Dec. 27 American History in Dance and Song by the N.Y. State Folk Dance Group; Jan. 17 Jewish Dance Through the Ages by Dvora Lapson and Group; Feb. 7 Pan-American Folk Dances by La Meri and Company. All of these programs are presented in the main auditorium from 3 to 4 P.M. and there is no admission charge. The last previous event of the series featured the folk dances and songs of Yugoslavia under the direction of Fred Berk and Katya Delakove with the Yugoslavian Folk Dance Group and Tamburitza Orchestra. Dances from Serbia, Croatia and Slovenia were presented, including the Kola, Balun, Skrijancek Poje, Steirish, Polka and a figure Schottische. Quite a colorful affair with folk costumes all over the place. The only one of the "regular" folk dance set that I saw there was Fred Leifer -- he belongs to the Yugoslav group and was dancing with them on the stage. (He showed up that evening at the English Country Dance Society just to finish off the day!)

The monthly dance at the Passaic N.Y. YMCA featured the Sagebrush Troubadours this time and they were well received. I managed to call six sets in the time allotted (9.30 to 12)

The end-of-the-lessons-series dance at the Passaic YMCA drew quite a nice crowd, including a set (friends of Miss Stultz) that came all the way up from Princeton.

The Fairleigh Dickinson College series ends with the coming of the holiday season and I was just planning some nice Sat. night visits to some of the other square and folk dance spots, when I walked Mr. Van Blarcom and bought my remaining Sat. nights of 1945 to call at Franklin Grange Hall. (With the exception of Sat. Dec. 8, which was already booked to call with the Sagebrush Troubadours at Sparkill N.Y. American Legion.)

November 23 I went to All Saints Parish Hall in Jersey City to call at a Jitterbug's Barn Dance! All beginners -- six hundred odd of them -- and did I sweat! After dragging them through a few squares, Helen and I gave them a jitterbug exhibition; frankly I'll confess they liked it much better than all the square dancing! The hit of the evening there was their mock-marriage booth -- rings sold enough to sink a ship!

Thursday Nov. 29 I was guest teacher for Florence Blumes folk dance group at the Newark YWCA. Helen and I taught them Thady You Gander, Lady Walpoles Reel, Roll the Barrel and the Wyoming Varsovienne. And you would never guess who was there -- Ralph Page's wife. Nice baby blizzard we had on the way home too; I finally made the last hill with the aid of an improvised shovel at around 3 A.M.

Well, this is the last issue of THE RAMAPO RANGERS -- the next issue will come out under the new name "ROSIN THE BOW". It will be a real printed magazine with color cover an' all the fixins'. A list of recordings suitable for square dancing, a list of places that sell rodeo and farmer clothing, calls, news an up-to-date revision of the folk and square dance directory will be among the features. If you have a paid subscription to the "Ramapo Rangers" that will of course continue the same number of months regardless of change in name or price. (The price for "Rosin the Bow" is \$1.50 for 12 months) but any subscriptions sent in before Dec. 31st will be accepted at the old \$1.00 per year rate.)

Here's the new singing call for the month:-

FORWARD HEADS, SIDES DIVIDE

Music; When Johnny Comes Marching Home.

Introduction.

Swing your corners 'round and 'round; hurray, hurray!
Swing your partners 'round and 'round; hurray, hurray!
Allemande left your corners all,
Go back and swing your partners all:
Swing your baby around and 'round and 'round.

Figure

Two head couples right hand star; hurray, hurray!
Back with the left to where you were; hurray, hurray!
Now forward heads and the sides divide,
You swing at the center and swing at the sides;
And we'll all feel gay when Johnny comes marching home.

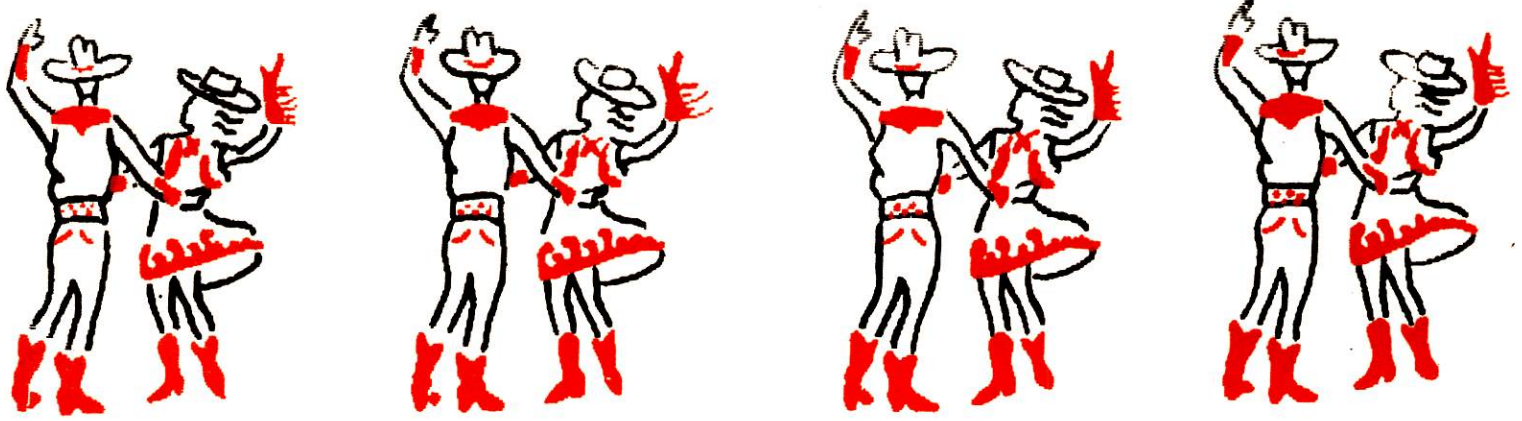
(Call this figure 4 times -- all will then be in original places and with original partners.)

Break

Two head couples dos-a-dos; hurray, hurray!
Two side couples dos-a-dos; hurray, hurray!
Dos-a-dos with your corners all,
Dos-a-dos with your partners all:-
Allemande your corner -- grand right and left around.
(Orchestra plays march medley)

Here's how -- diagram





RAMBLING RANGERS

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The Polish Folk Art and Dance Group continues to practice at the International Center, and on November 17th will hold an open house party there. They also continue to square dance over in Jersey! Bill Cairn's group (international folk dancing) meets downstairs on the same night and apparently is doing quite well. Bill has a new public address system.

The masquerade square dance at the Passaic YMCA went over very well, with nearly all the dancers in costume. Helen decorated the gym with black cat cutouts --- 10 feet high! Very startling against the white handball courts as one walked into the place. A group of the Paterson Y Outing Club came up with Ed Laurence, and the Guses and Van Sauns also brought a group of friends. An album of square dance records was awarded as a costume prize. Roll the Barrel and the Jackson White Reel were the two pet dances of the evening --- after the latter, Mr. Hendershott (the Y Program Secretary, who hails from the South) was heard to say something like "pixallated ridge-runners"! Lynn Nichols and the orchestra turned out some nice renditions, notably the Clover Blossom Quadrille and a breakdown version of the Sicilian Circle. The figures of this quadrille are of interest as they represent a transition stage between the quadrille proper and the modern square dance. There is but one part.

CLOVER BLOSSOM QUADRILLE (Tune: When Clover's in Bloom)

- Intro. Honor partners, honor corners, all join hands and circle left all the way around; swing partners.
- Figure. Heads forward and back; forward and four hands half around. Sides the same. Heads half promenade. Sides the same. Head ladies chain. Sides the same.
- Chorus. All swing your corner lady and promenade the ring. (Back to the ladies position)

We spent a busy Wednesday evening silk-screening the covers for a big batch of the dance directory. Kici (our black cat) had a most adventurous party -- trying to walk over the sticky paint and track it all over the house! After the job was done Helen swore she would never look at another cowboy!!

The English Country Dance Society is picking up members from week to week; we had the floor well filled Thursday. You should drop in on

some Thursday evening; Phillip Merrill can put that real lilt into the English dances. After the English session (they quit early) we took a peek at the group in the Broadway Tabernacle. Their crowd is also growing --- growing larger, and also more swing-wacky! In spite of all the hullabaloo about racial equality, non-discrimination, etc., this is the only place run by whites where I have ever seen negroes treated as social equals at a folk or square dance. There were a number of negroes there Thursday --- and all having a good time. Everybody calls there; they had a different one for every square while we watched!!

Paul Shea dropped in on my Friday night class at the Passaic YWCA just in time to be broken in to the Arkansas version of the much disputed Western dosey-doe. After the Y closed we dropped him at Sweisguths to finish off the evening and himself! He, by the way, has become a real contra dance bug since spending most of the summer up in Ralph Page's territory.

The Fairleigh Dickinson students have finally boiled down to those who like it and can take it --- and did they take it and like it at the college Saturday night! All fast Western squares left them not at all wilted, that murderous Jackson White Reel only made them pant for more, and they finished the evening by dancing Forward Heads, Sides Divide twice in a row -- by request! They even took the smooch dance in stride and with a half-dozen new variations. We stopped by on the way home at the Rosemont Firehouse and the IHC Ragamuffin Square Dance was still going strong with about three-quarters of the Ramapo Rangers there whooping it up for all they were worth.

Sunday night November 4th was callers night at Manchester Dance, Three Towers Ballroom (2 miles south of Somerville on Route 31). Nice crowd and quite swing-wacky; I think I made a bit of a mistake in calling Billy Boy for them -- they would have probably liked Swingo-Ringo better. They sure liked to swing! Pap Stout is the regular caller there, and Mrs. Stout plays the piano in the orchestra. Nice band -- they follow well. Pap Stout tells me he is starting up the Wednesday night squares again at Jefferson School in Plainfield N.J. Among the calls of the evening was a version of forward up six and back done as a singing call to the tune of 'When Johnny Comes Marching Home', and a variation of Honolulu Baby (or the Spanish Cavalliero) in which there was no circle three -- all swinging. The crowd also liked a 'butterfly whirl' melange done to a very fast orchestration of Golden Slippers. In some of the sets I noted that the men swung the ladies around at arms length, left hand around on 'ladies chain' instead of the usual left hands joined and right on her waist. John Villani had a real gripe -- they've put him on a night shift; he can't get off to call and his orchestra languishes on the vine. He was out at Ed Burlacher's Jamboree but missed the afternoon doings. And he craves the call for 'Ten Little Indians'. I'll have to sort through my old notes; I have a couple of versions, I hope one of them is what he is looking for. Mr. Tiger also has had a bit of bad luck; his pet violinist in his all-girl band must lay off indefinitely because of an arm affliction. He is also suffering from a bit of nostalgia for the 'good old days', quadrilles and line dances. It seems that the section down there was once the center of a large millionaire colony, the servants being mostly English and Scotch who added their own country dances to the local shindigs. I'll have to investigate a bit -- don't be too surprised if I come back with a cross between 'Gathering Peasecods' and 'Step Right Up and See Her Smile'.....??? Mr. Tiger says he is coming up and pay us a visit some night -- girl band and all. Perhaps we can beat him to it and pay him a visit at one of his spots with a set or two in costume some evening? Don Pierce has opened at Legion Hall in Morristown, I think it's Saturday nights. Hobart Marshall looked a bit weary; said he had been out every night of the preceeding week (Halloween). 'Uncle George' Vigor was running all over the place with an unattached mike in his hand -- in all the uproar I didn't get whether he had just come from a job or was just going out on one.

They have their own version of the Varsoviennne down there, (what place hasn't, I wonder?) this is about 35 variations I've met. They make two separate dances of it; first they did the pointing with the waltz interspersed. Then after a few rounds of this they pause a few moments, then when the orchestra strikes up again they do the mazurka, also with a waltz break. They invited the Ramapo Rangers down some Sunday evening; I hope we can catch up to our invitations someday -- and Mr. Thomas has invited us down to dance with his Denim and Calico Club.

I made arrangements (?) with the Manchester Dance people to mail me a list of the callers present, as I missed a few in arriving late, but since they haven't shown up yet, I'll have to run this issue without them. If they show up I'll put them in next month.

The Ramapo Rangers met at the Guses on Monday evening Nov. 5 and decided among other things that future practices will be held at the Passaic YMCA where larger quarters are available, as it has become obvious that we cannot squeeze three or four practice sets into the present room. Most of the practice time of the evening went to English Country Dances, Western squares and a kreuz konig session for our newer members. Present at this meeting: Estelle and Erwin Guse, Catherine and Ed Laurence, Frieda and Jack Van Saun, Rena and Bill Kamena, Barbara and Frank Schwab, Helen and Rod La Farge, Dot and Gay Adler, Eileen and Joe Rourke, Mary Arristibia and Marie Larkin.

The American Square Dance Group is resuming its regular open house parties on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month at 40 East 40th St. N.Y.C. Margot Mayo, recently returned from the WACs, is again leading the group.

Michael Herman's 'Folk Dancer' for October includes music and Directions for a version of the Sicilian Tarantella -- the version that fits Victor Record VL2567. I also note that Michael will teach El Pericon on Dec. 14. This is that figure dance from Uruguay with the calls in Spanish. (Best record #50009B) At the end of the dance the participants form their national emblem with their kerchiefs.

Henry Joseph has been forced to give up his Thursday night group at Irving Plaza -- the dancing feet disturbed the various meetings going on in the building. At the moment the group is homeless.

The International Center YMCA, 341 East 17th St. NYC has published a series of mimeographed sheets giving the music and directions for 156 folk dances. These sheets are on sale individually at from 5 to 15¢ per dance, depending upon the number of sheets involved.

My Wednesday evening series of lessons at the Paterson YMCA has been completed -- I now have Wednesdays free again; the Passaic YMCA series is moving to Monday nights (930 to 12, following the Rangers 8.00 to 9.30 practice session), so I'll have Tuesdays open also. The regular monthly YMCA square dances with orchestra will however be on either Tuesday or Wednesday evenings in the future. The next one will be Tuesday Nov. 20, 9.30 to 12 P.M. Also add to the one-time events; I'm calling at Sparkill N.Y. on Saturday Nov. 10 and in the firehouse at Franklin Lakes N.J. on Wednesday evening Nov. 21; both dates with the Sagebrush Troubadours Orchestra, -- and don't forget the Passaic YMCA dance on Nov. 16, I'm calling there with the Wright Rubes band.

The Ramapo Rangers gave an exhibition at the Victory Bond Rally in Wayne Jr. High School on Thursday evening Nov. 8 with the Wright Rubes furnishing the music for the affair. We did the usual Rangers Routine, Billy Boy and Lady Walpole's Reel -- to the tune of 'The Wearing of the Green'**** the orchestra didn't know any of the regular reels. It went very well at that! (Helen threatens to shoot me if I start concocting singing calls to her pet contra dances; she's had that 'is-nothing-sacred' look ever since I borrowed some Polish tunes for square dance calls). Rangers at the rally: Jack and Frieda Van Saun, Erwin and Estelle Guse, Ed and Catherine Laurence, Gay and Dot Adler, Rod and Helen La Farge. As usual, the Red Cross furnished the transportation -- and Jack and Frieda spent most of the trip in an attempt to convert the drivers to square dancing!



RAMAPO RANGERS

Published by Rod La Farge 115 Cliff St. Haledon N.J.
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We note that Ed Durlacher has edited a Play Party Book (Devin Adair, Publisher, \$2.50) My book of singing calls will be ready in January; the edition is limited, if you want to be sure of a copy send for it early. (\$1.00 to 115 Cliff St. Haledon). I also hear there will be a book of Polish folk material out next year, and there are rumors of a book on West Indian Dances.

Don Conine is no longer calling at Franklin Grange -- he's gone back to college and the grangers are experimenting with various callers and orchestras. The Wigwam at Budd Lake has closed for the winter, but Al Shaner is still calling on Saturday nights at the Moose Hall in Dover, and also the following one-time dates with Al Green's orchestra: Friday Dec. 7 at the Borough Hall, Roseland N.J.; Thursday Dec. 13 at the Borough Hall, Andover N.J.; Tuesday Dec. 18 at the Clubhouse Washington Valley N.J. Also specials at the Dover Moose Hall on Sunday evening Dec. 2, Dec. 9 and New Years Eve Dec. 31.

Gary Vandershaff is still calling with his Mountain Ramblers at the American Legion Hall in Middletown; and in addition sends in these one-time dates: - Friday Dec. 14 for the Minnesink Hose Co. at the Community Hall in Unionville N.Y.; Thursday Dec. 20 for the Eagle Fire Co. at the Central Fire House in Middletown N.Y.; Friday Dec. 28 for the Young Peoples Club at the North Cong. Church on Beacon St. Middletown N.Y.; and on New Years Eve for the Wallkill American Legion at their home on Wisner Ave.

I see that Don Pearce is doing a fair amount of calling up around Pompton and Abramson and his band were at the OES in Hawthorne last week. Pap Stout is again calling at the Jefferson School in Plainfield William Barzell is leading the "Ukrainian Folk Dancers" (open to all) at the Dance Players Studio, 154 W. 56 St. NYC every Sunday at 5.30 P.M. John Tukey writes that they have a folk and square dance group in the Elementary School on Nassau St. in Princeton N.J. every Tuesday from 8 to 10 P.M. The American Square Dance Group has Moved to 1657 Bwdy., NYC and will hold the first open house there on Dec. 8 at 8.30 P.M.

The Ramapo Rangers are now meeting on Monday nights at the Passaic YMCA. Out for the first night at the new practice hall were Jack and Frieda Van Saun, Estelle and Erwin Guse, Ed and Catherine Laurence, Frank and Barbara Schwab, Bill and Rena Kamena, Gay and Dot Adler, Joe and Eileen Rourke, Marie Larkin, Mary Arristibia, Helen and Rod La Farge.

I've put in a couple of Saturday nights calling at the Sparkill (N.Y.) American Legion Hall with the Sagebrush Troubadours. A very nice hall

and friendly people. They like their square dances more complicated than most places prefer -- they just dote on such things as Dip and Live, Progressive Billy Boy, Lucy Long, Left Hand Lady Under and they fell for the Western Losey-doe (Arkansas version). The Sagebrushers are beginning to play jigs and reels for the squares and the dancers really enjoy a change from the Standard Favorites (Mellie Gray, etc.) I used a new, extra big amplifier on these jobs and the crowds sure 'shush', in fact they practically cower! But are they full of pep! After the usual three dances of a square set they scream for more -- and let the sissy fox trots fall where they may!

Several of the Rangers dropped in at the Franklin Lakes Firehouse where I called with the Troubadours on Thanksgiving Eve. Also along were Al and Charlotte Coxley and the Winters showed up in force. Nice evening -- good cider too! There was one set of sub teen-agers on the floor that waited out the smooch dance with crimson embarrassment! Jack took a lovely spill whilst doing -- of all things -- Loozy Loo!

I dropped in on Michael Herman's Tuesday night group at Arlington Hall (Nov. 27), but had to leave early -- there were about a hundred present when I left. Leroy Balje and Kitty Toomey were there, with several others of the Friday Night Crowd. Michael notes in "The Folk Dancer" that he has issued a list of folk dance groups -- I haven't seen anything of it so I can't comment.

Bill Cairns has resigned as chairman of the attempt to form an international dance leaders association in NY, but I am later given to understand that the project is still very much alive.

Any of you who can arrange to get to the American Museum of Natural History on a Thursday afternoon would probably feel well repaid for the effort on one of the dates scheduled for their "Around the World with Dance and Song" series. The remaining events are:-- Dec. 13 African Dances Past and Present by Asadata Dafora and Company; Dec. 27 American History in Dance and Song by the N.Y. State Folk Dance Group; Jan. 17 Jewish Dance Through the Ages by Dvora Lapson and Group; Feb. 7 Pan-American Folk Dances by La Meri and Company. All of these programs are presented in the main auditorium from 3 to 4 P.M. and there is no admission charge. The last previous event of the series featured the folk dances and songs of Yugoslavia under the direction of Fred Berk and Katya Delakove with the Yugoslavian Folk Dance Group and Tamburitza Orchestra. Dances from Serbia, Croatia and Slovenia were presented, including the Kola, Balun, Skrijancek Poje, Steirish, Polka and a figure Schottische. Quite a colorful affair with folk costumes all over the place. The only one of the "regular" folk dance set that I saw there was Fred Leifer -- he belongs to the Yugoslav group and was dancing with them on the stage. (He showed up that evening at the English Country Dance Society just to finish off the day.)

The monthly dance at the Passaic N.Y. Y.M.C.A. featured the Sagebrush Troubadours this time and they were well received. I managed to call six sets in the time allotted (9:30 to 12).

The end-of-the-lessons-series dance at the Passaic Y.M.C.A. drew quite a nice crowd, including a set (Friends of Miss Stultz) that came all the way up from Princeton.

The Fairleigh Dickinson College series ends with the coming of the holiday season and I was just planning some nice Sat. night visits to some of the other square and folk dance spots, when I walked in Van Blarcom and bought my remaining Sat. nights of 1946 to call at Franklin Grange Hall. (With the exception of Sat. Dec. 8, which was already booked to call with the Sagebrush Troubadours at Sparkill N.Y. American Legion.)

November 23 I went to All Saints Parish Hall in Jersey City to call at a Jitterbug's Barn Dance! All beginners -- six hundred odd of them -- and did I sweat! After dragging them through a few squares, Helen and I gave them a jitterbug exhibition; frankly I'll confess they liked it much better than all the square dancing! The hit of the evening there was their mock-marriage booth -- rings sold enough to sink a ship!

Thursday Nov. 29 I was guest teacher for Florence Blumes folk dance group at the Newark YWCA. Helen and I taught them Thady You Gander, Lady Walpoles Reel, Roll the Barrel and the Wyoming Varsovienne. And you would never guess who was there -- Ralph Page's wife. Nice baby blizzard we had on the way home too; I finally made the last hill with the aid of an improvised shovel at around 3 A.M.

Well, this is the last issue of THE RAMAPO RANGERS -- the next issue will come out under the new name "ROSIN THE BOW". It will be a real printed magazine with color cover and all the fixins'. A list of recordings suitable for square dancing, a list of places that sell rodeo and farmer clothing, calls, news and an up-to-date revision of the folk and square dance directory will be among the features. If you have a paid subscription to the "Ramapo Rangers" that will of course continue the same number of months regardless of change in name or price. (The price for "Rosin the Bow" is \$1.50 for 12 months) but any subscriptions sent in before Dec. 31st will be accepted at the old \$1.00 per year rate.)

Here's the new singing call for the month:-

FORWARD HEADS, SIDES DIVIDE

Music; When Johnny Comes Marching Home.

Introduction.

Swing your corners 'round and 'round; hurray, hurray!
Swing your partners 'round and 'round; hurray, hurray!
Allemande left your corners all,
Go back and swing your partners all:
Swing your baby around and 'round and 'round.

Figure

Two head couples right hand star; hurray, hurray!
Back with the left to where you were; hurray, hurray!
Now forward heads and the sides divide,
You swing at the center and swing at the sides;
And we'll all feel gay when Johnny comes marching home.

(Call this figure 4 times -- all will then be in original places and with original partners.)

Break

Two head couples dos-a-dos; hurray, hurray!
Two side couples dos-a-dos; hurray, hurray!
Dos-a-dos with your corners all,
Dos-a-dos with your partners all:-
Allemande your corner -- grand right and left around.

(Orchestra plays march medley)

Here's how -- diagram

